



# phoenix

NOSTALGIA



BY OSAMU TEZUKA

Phoenix: Nostalgia  
Vol. 6  
VIZ Signature Edition

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A message to our readership:

Some of the phrasing and expressions in the work you are about to read reflect the time and context in which it was originally created and thus might not be in accordance with present standards. The author had an unflinching dedication to conveying several themes through the art of manga, such as the importance of nature, love and peace; a warning against the idolization of science, and the preciousness of life. It is clear that at the root of his work there is a strong belief in the power of human love overall.

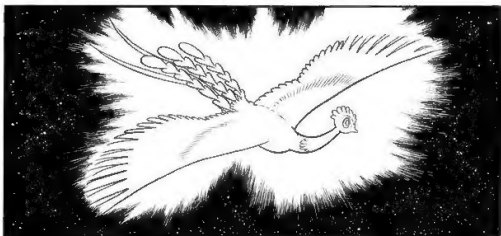
We believe that publishing a faithful translation is essential to accurately conveying the message within the work itself as intended by the author, as well as protecting its integrity as a part of Japan's cultural heritage and preserving it for future generations. We therefore appreciate your understanding as you enjoy this work of art.

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Published by VIZ Media, LLC  
P.O. Box 77010  
San Francisco, CA 94107

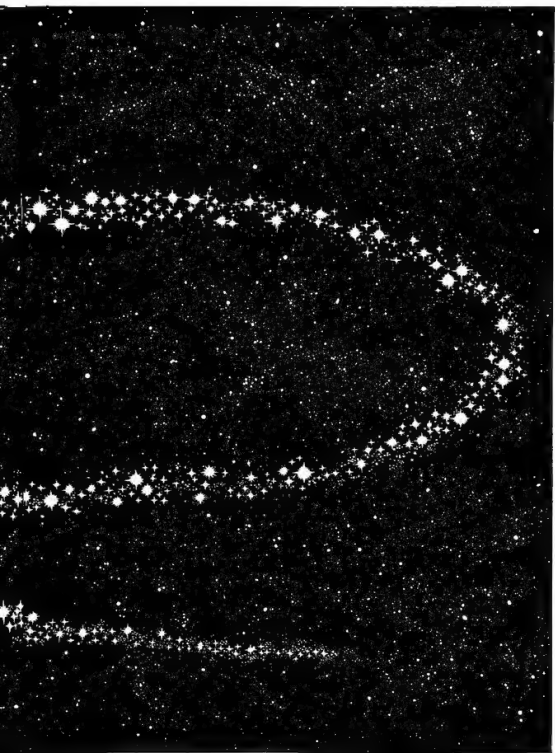


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PEOPLE CALL ME THE "PHOENIX."  
IT IS TRUE THAT I LOOK LIKE A  
BIRD, BUT THAT IS ONLY HOW I  
APPEAR TO HUMAN EYES. MY TRUE  
FORM IS... WELL... IN REALITY I'M  
ONLY A SMALL BIT OF THE LIFE  
FORCE IN THE COSMOS...

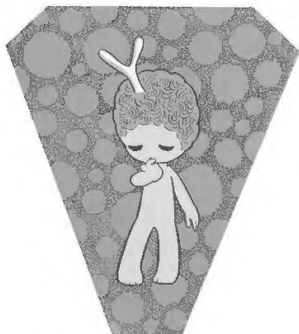


I HAVE MET ALL KINDS OF  
CREATURES ON ALL KINDS  
OF PLANETS, THROUGHOUT  
THE FARTHEST REACHES OF  
THE UNIVERSE.



BUT I SHALL NEVER FORGET TINY  
EDEN 17, AND THE WOMAN WHO  
MADE HISTORY THERE, ONLY  
TO BE DESTROYED ALONG  
WITH THE PLANET.

# phoenix

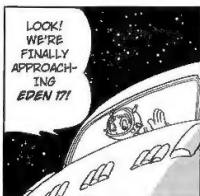
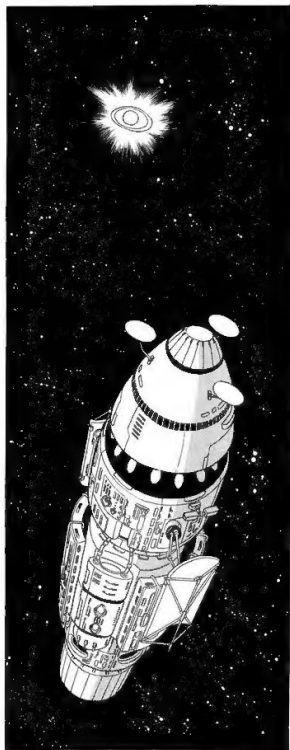


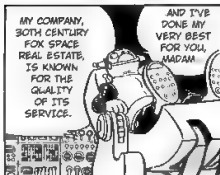
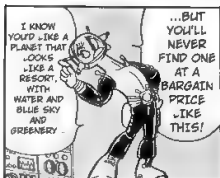
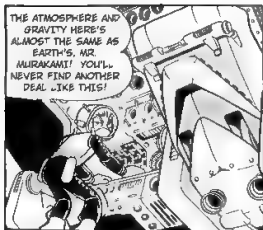
# NOSTALGIA





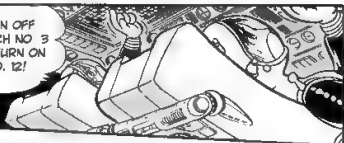
THE WOMAN WAS AN  
EARTHLING, AND AS I  
RECALL SHE CALLED  
HERSELF "ROMY." I KNEW  
HER FROM THE TIME  
SHE ARRIVED ON EDEN 17.  
IT WAS A PARCHED,  
EARTHQUAKE-  
RIDDEN PLACE...





WE'LL BE  
LANDING IN  
THREE  
MINUTES...  
HERE WE  
GO...

TURN OFF  
SWITCH NO 3  
AND TURN ON  
NO. 12!



LEVER D ON  
DOWN POSITION!  
D IS DOWN!



**ROAR**

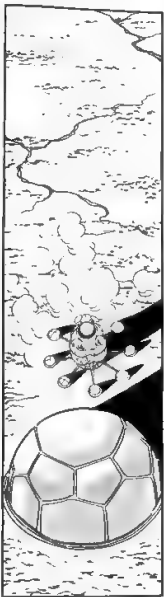


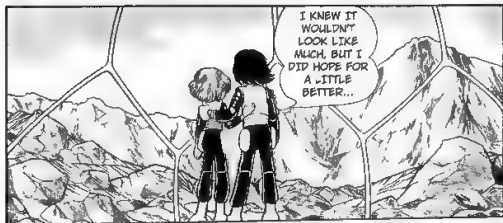
ONE MINUTE TO  
TOUCH DOWN!

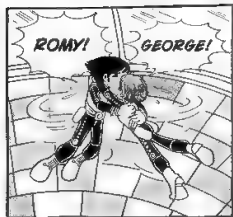
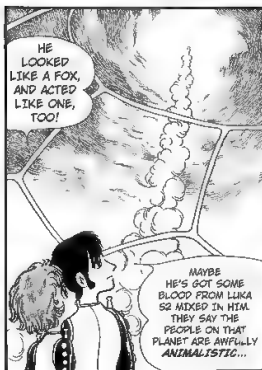
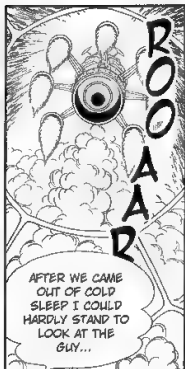
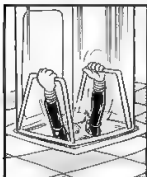


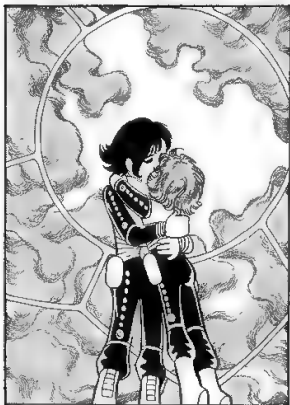
**ROAR**

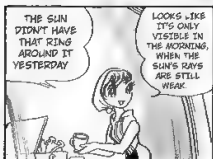
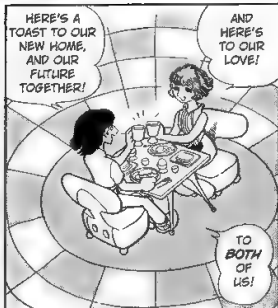
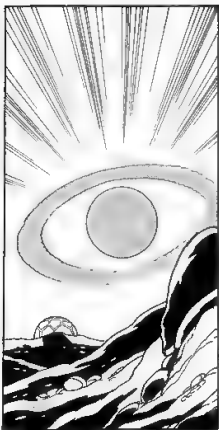
FIFTY SECONDS...  
FORTY... THIRTY....



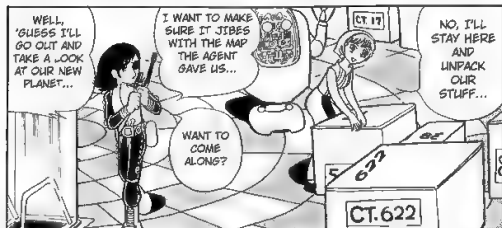


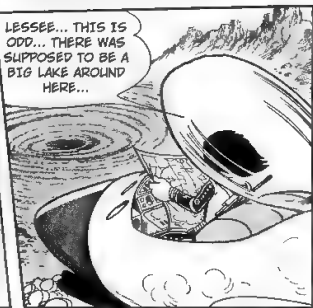
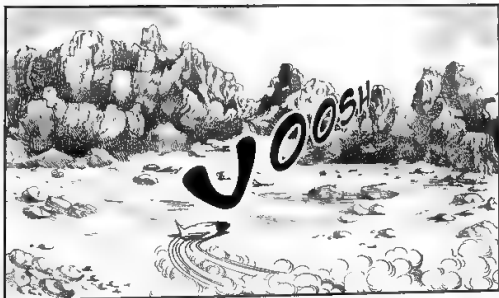


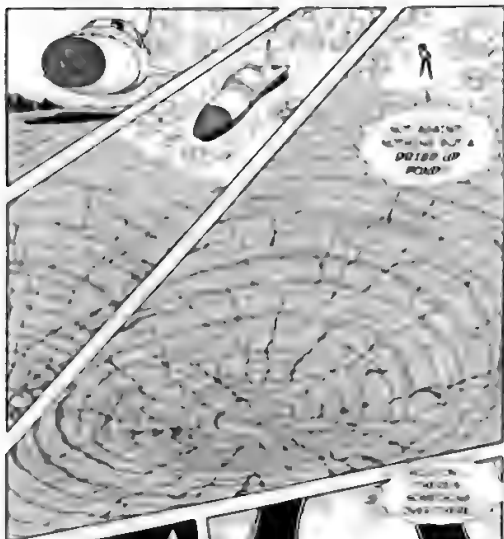


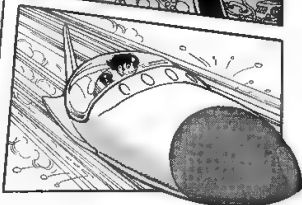


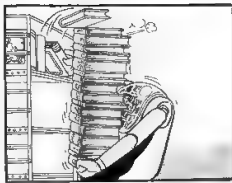
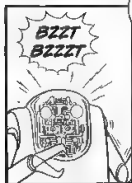
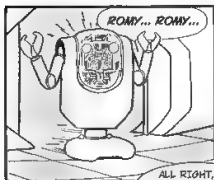


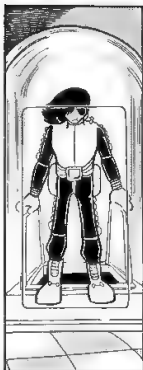












W...  
WELCOME  
BACK,  
GEORGE...



... IS... IS  
SOMETHING  
WRONG?!



WH...  
WHAT'S  
THE  
MATTER?

EVERYTHING  
... AND  
MORE...

WE WERE  
SOLD A  
BILL OF  
GOODS....



WHAT  
ARE  
YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT  
?!

THAT REAL  
ESTATE AGENT  
TRICKED US!!

THE MAP HE  
GAVE US IS  
**USELESS!**  
EVERYTHING  
HE TOLD US  
WAS A **LIE!!**

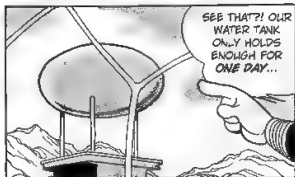


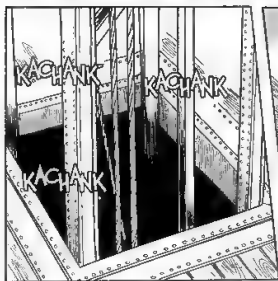
WHERE'S OUR COMM  
EQUIPMENT?! I  
WON'T LET HIM GET  
AWAY WITH THIS!

WAIT!  
TELL ME  
WHAT'S  
HAPPENING!

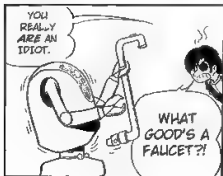
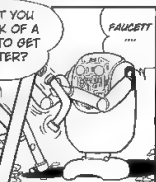


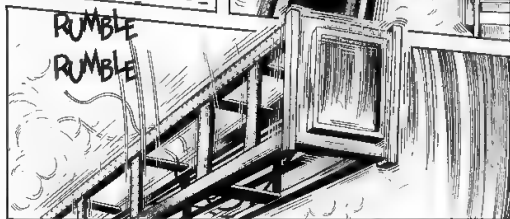
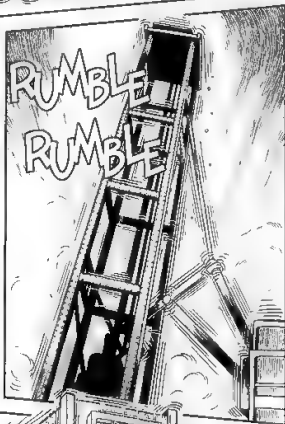
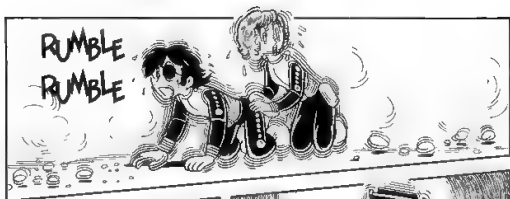
ALL THE WATER  
THAT'S SUPPOSED  
TO BE AROUND HERE  
IS DRIED UP! AND  
WE'RE NOT THE  
FIRST TO  
BUY THIS  
PLACE, EITHER!!

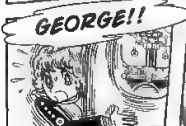


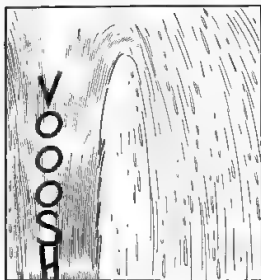


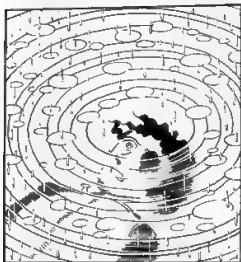
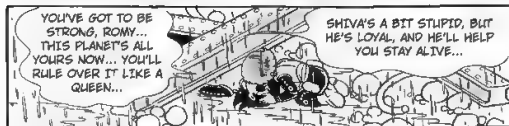


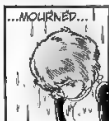
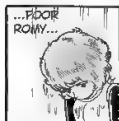


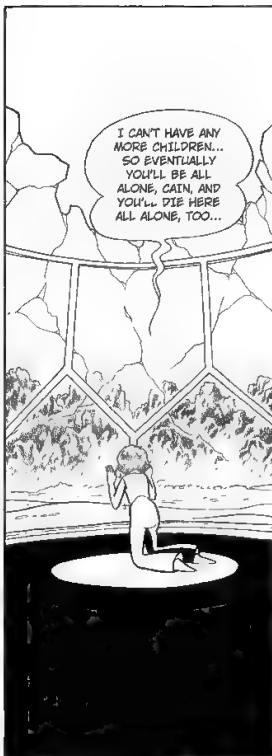
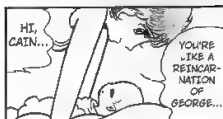
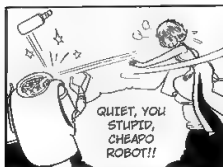
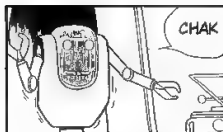


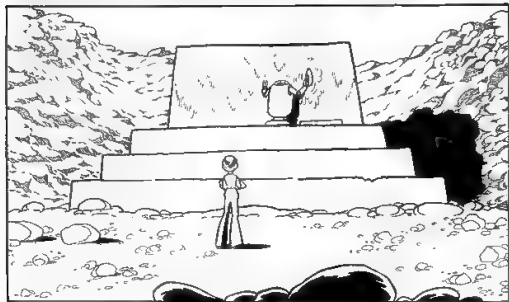
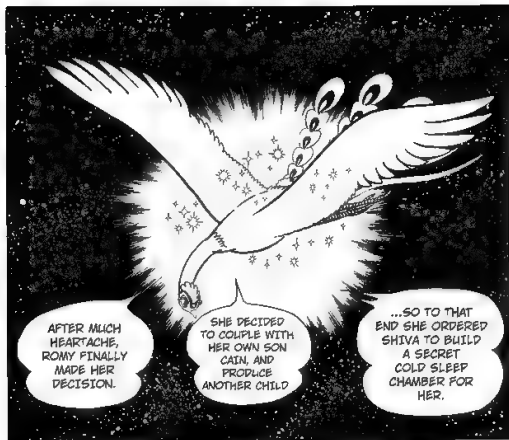




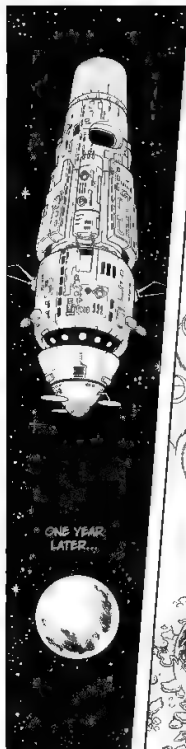






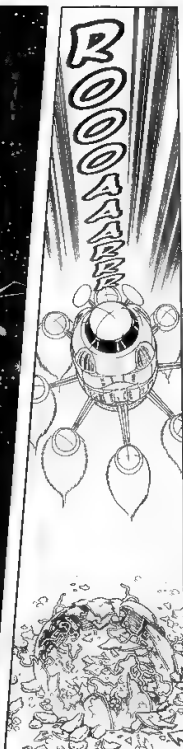






ONE YEAR  
LATER...

ROOAAARR



PSSSSHHH...



WELL,  
MADAM,  
HOW  
ARE  
YOU?



SO  
YOU'RE  
BACK!

YOU'VE  
GOT A  
LOT OF  
NERVE  
COMING  
HERE!

IT'S  
PART OF  
THE JOB,  
MADAM...

A  
SPECIAL  
SERVICE  
OUR  
COMPANY  
SUPPLIES  
...









TAKE  
HIM AND  
BURY  
HIM  
SOME-  
WHERE,  
SHIVA...



WHAAA  
WHAAA

MY DEAR  
FUTURE  
HUSBAND...

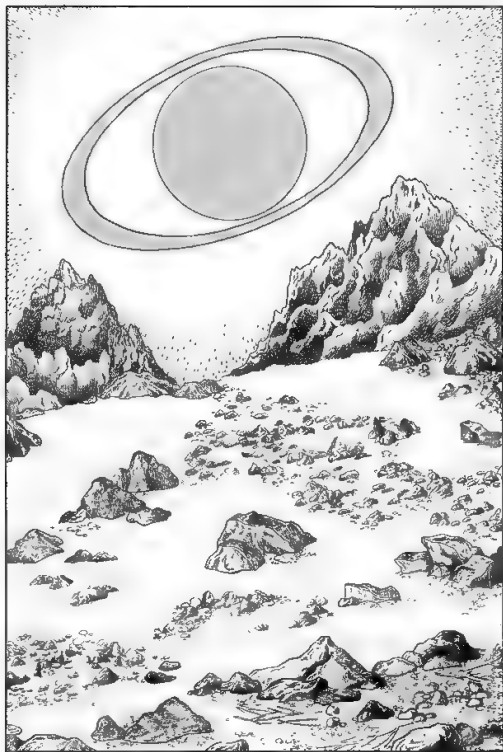
WHAAA

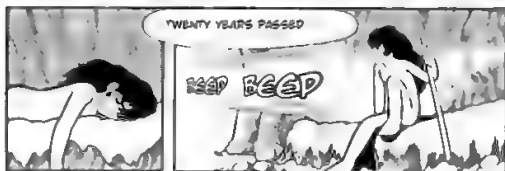


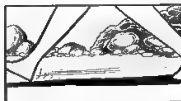
AND WITH THAT...



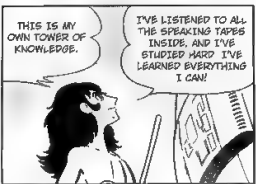
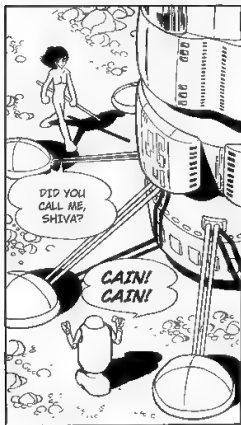
...ROMY LEFT  
THE BABY CAIN IN  
SHIVA'S CARE, AND  
ENTERED THE  
COLD-SLEEP TANK IN  
THE SECRET CHAM-  
BER SHE HAD BUILT







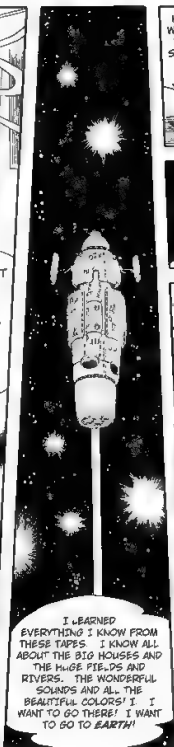
CAIN HAD  
GROWN INTO A  
FINE YOUNG  
MAN, JUST AS  
HIS MOTHER  
HAD HOPED.







I KNOW ALL ABOUT  
THE PLANET  
CALLED EARTH! .  
THAT LAND I'VE  
NEVER SEEN, SO  
FAR UP IN THE  
HEAVENS...



I LEARNED  
EVERYTHING I KNOW FROM  
THESE TAPES. I KNOW ALL  
ABOUT THE BIG HOUSES AND  
THE HUGE FIELDS AND  
RIVERS. THE WONDERFUL  
SOUNDS AND ALL THE  
BEAUTIFUL COLORS! I  
WANT TO GO THERE! I WANT  
TO GO TO EARTH!



HUH?  
WHAT'S  
THAT  
SOUND  
?

WHRRR  
WHRRR



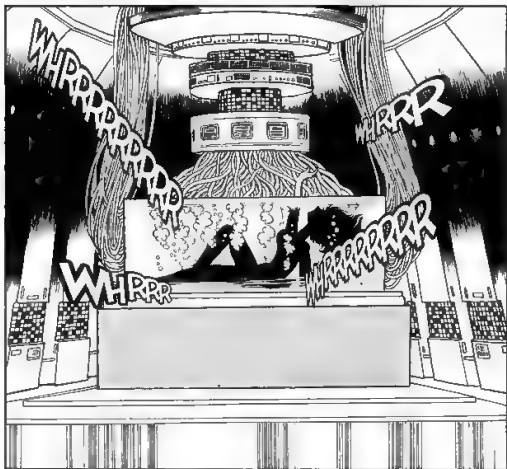
WHAT CAN  
IT BE? I'VE  
NEVER HEARD  
THAT SOUND  
BEFORE!

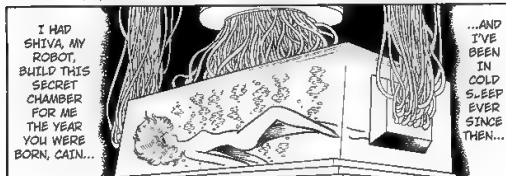
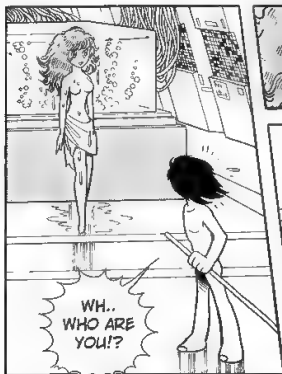
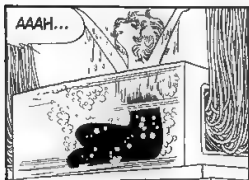
WHRRR  
WHRRR

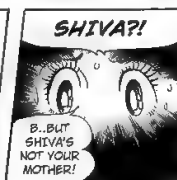


WHRRR  
WHRRR

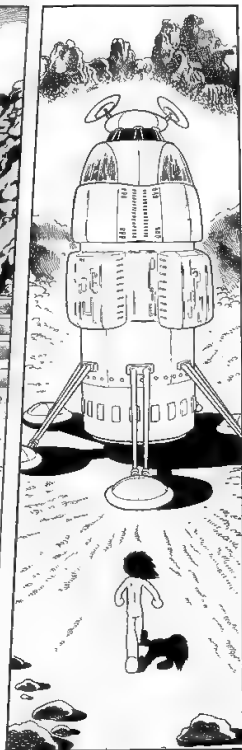
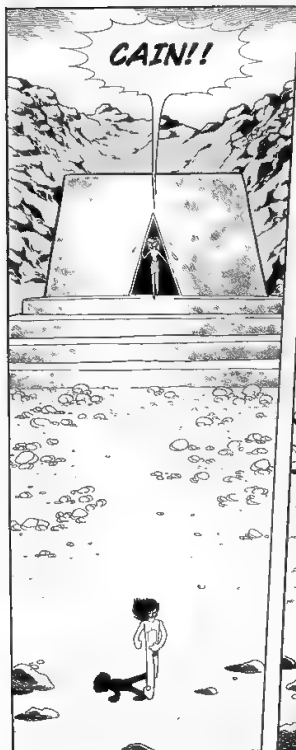
WHRRR  
WHRRR

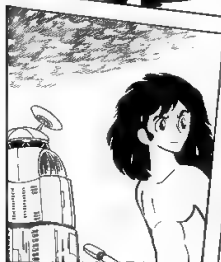
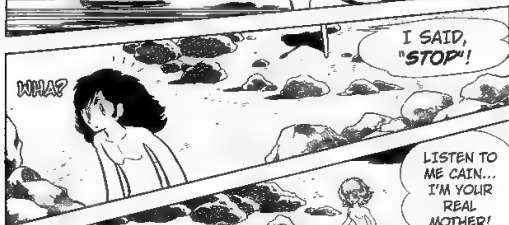


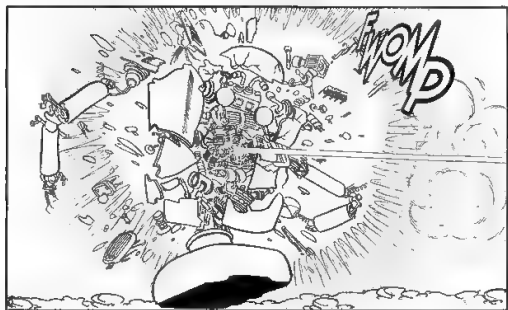




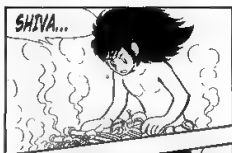
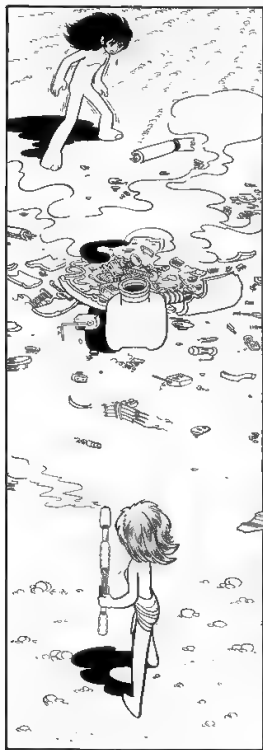




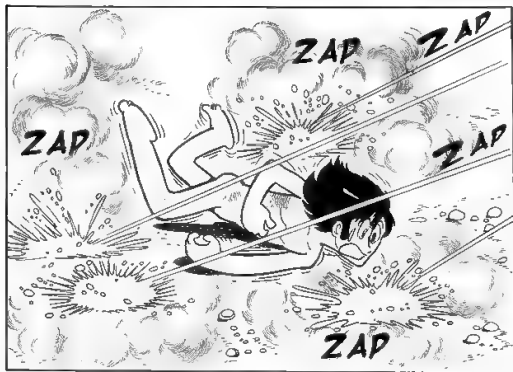


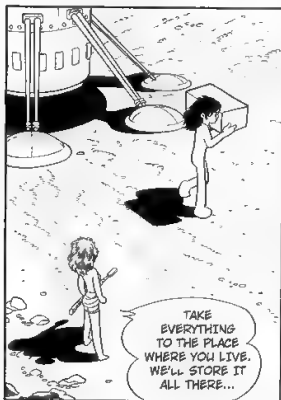
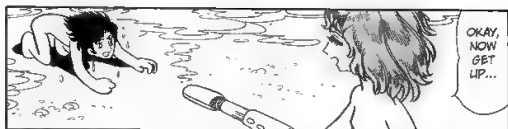


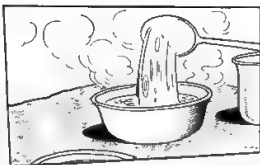


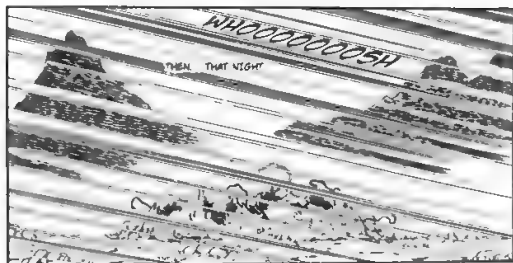


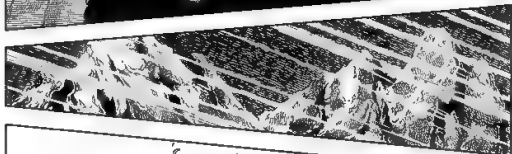












FLASH!



WHEN WILL  
THE BABY BE  
BORN?

TEN  
MONTHS  
FROM  
NOW...



I CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
IT.

RUMMBLE

THAT'S THE  
WAY YOU  
WERE BORN,  
TOO, CAIN...

BAAROOOMMM



WHOOOSH

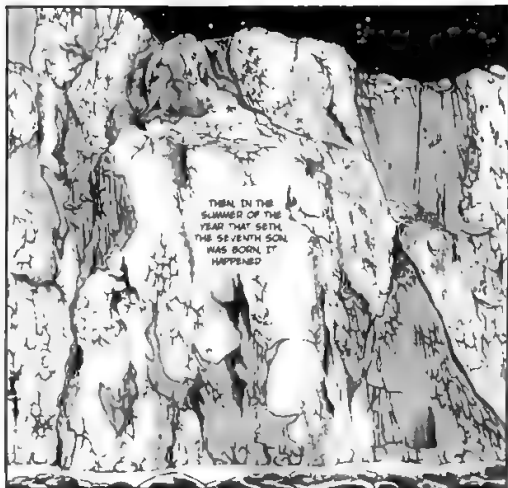
WHOOOOSH

POOOAR

FROM THAT TIME ON ROBYN  
AND CAIN PRODUCED CHILD  
AFTER CHILD

AND THEY GAVE NAMES TO  
EACH ONE LOT RYLA ABEL  
BARD TERA MERAN AND SEYM



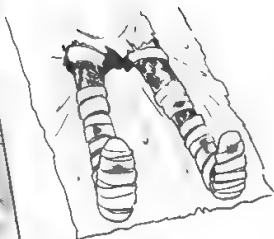


THEN IN THE  
SUMMER OF THE  
YEAR THAT SETH  
THE SEVENTH SON  
WAS BORN, IT  
HAPPENED



RUMMBBLLLE





HOW DO  
YOU FEEL?  
STILL  
NUMB?

AGH..  
EVERYTHING  
FROM MY  
WAIST DOWN  
HAS BEEN  
SMASHED ..



I'M SO  
SORRY,  
ROMY...



I'M AFRAID  
WE WON'T  
BE ABLE TO  
HAVE ANY  
MORE  
CHILDREN...

WE'VE ALREADY  
HAD SEVEN,  
CAIN...



YES, BUT  
THEY'RE  
ALL BOYS.

WE NEED A GIRL.  
WITHOUT ONE, OUR  
LINE WILL DIE OUT.  
IF ONLY WE HAD  
A GIRL...



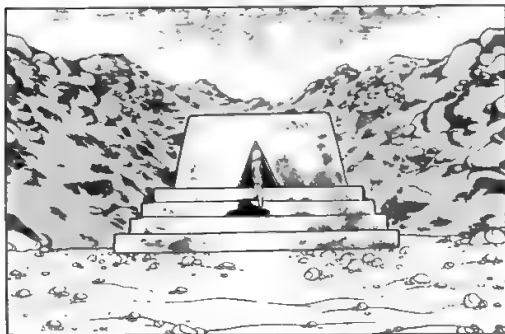
YOU'RE A  
WOMAN, ROMY!  
PLEASE,  
YOU'VE GOT TO  
GO BACK TO  
SLEEP AGAIN.

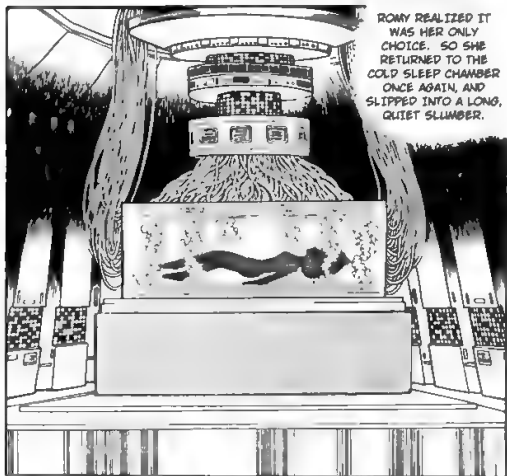
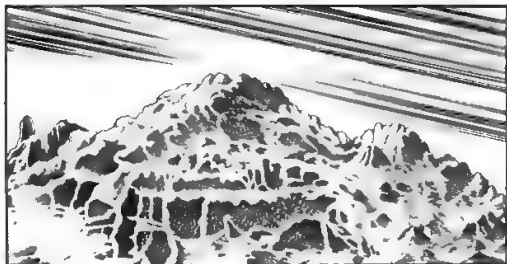
WHAT?!



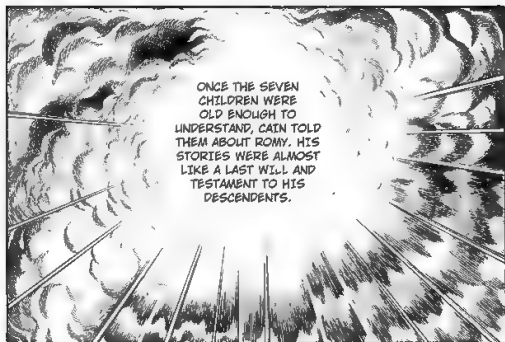
GO BACK INTO THE ROOM BEHIND  
THE WHITE WALL AGAIN.  
GO TO SLEEP FOR A LONG, LONG  
TIME. ONCE OUR BOYS HAVE  
GROWN INTO MEN YOU CAN COME  
BACK AND MARRY ONE OF THEM.

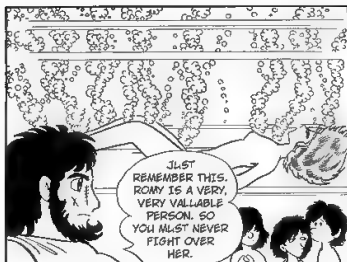






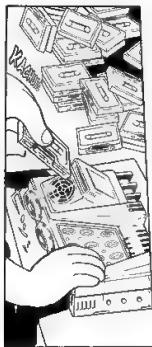
ROMY REALIZED IT WAS HER ONLY CHOICE. SO SHE RETURNED TO THE COLD SLEEP CHAMBER ONCE AGAIN, AND SLIPPED INTO A LONG, QUIET SLUMBER.

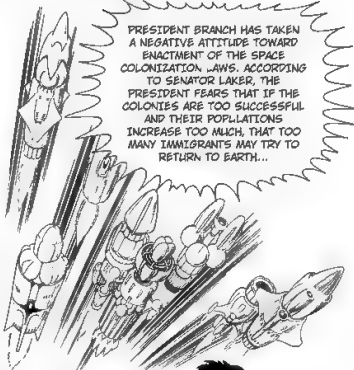






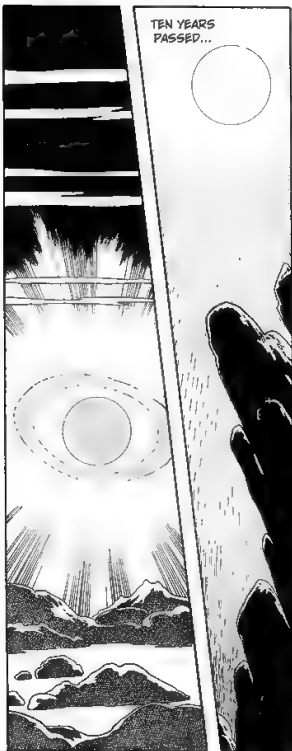






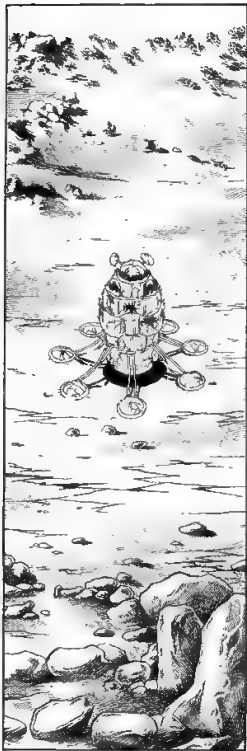


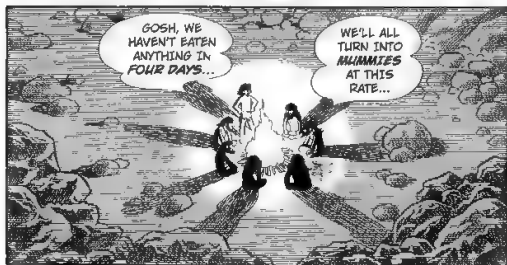
TEN YEARS  
PASSED...

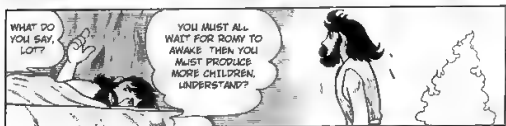




AND THEN CAIN AND  
HIS CHILDREN FACED  
A TERRIBLE YEAR OF  
DROUGHT, DURING  
WHICH THE SPARSE  
VEGETATION ON  
EDEN IT DRIED UP  
AND DIED.

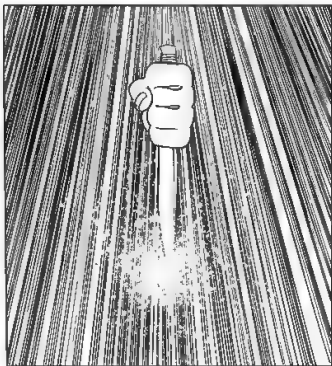














ABEL--ROMY AND CAIN'S THIRD CHILD--HAD A TALENT FOR INVENTION AND INNOVATION THAT FAR EXCEEDED THAT OF HIS BROTHERS. HE PLUCKED AND DRIED THE MEAGER GRASSES THAT GREW AROUND THE PLANET THEN, HE BEGAN GRINDING THEM UP AND COMBINING THEM IN NEW WAYS.



AFTER  
COUNTLESS  
FAILURES...



HE FINALLY...



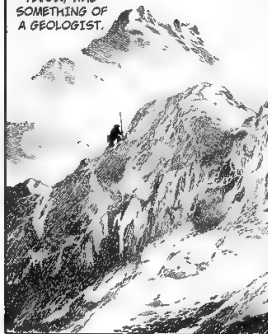
SUCCEEDED  
IN CREATING  
SOMETHING  
RESEMBLING  
BREAD

OWWWW!

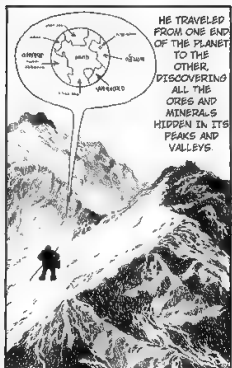
OUCH!

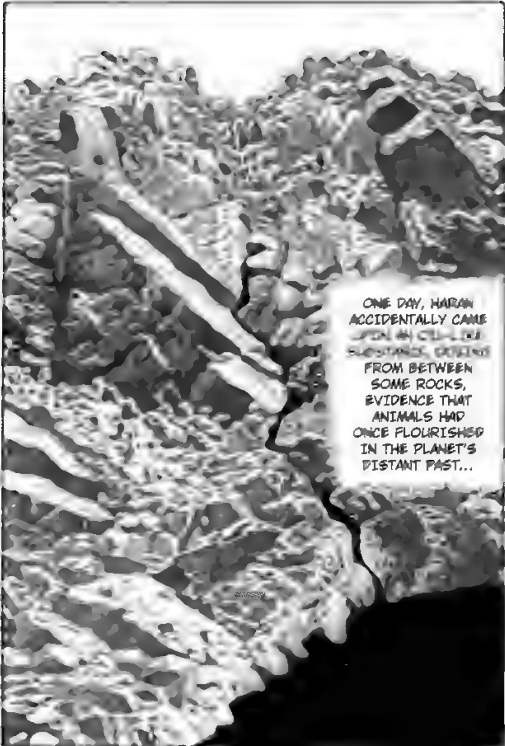


THE SIXTH SON,  
HARAN, WAS  
SOMETHING OF  
A GEOLOGIST.

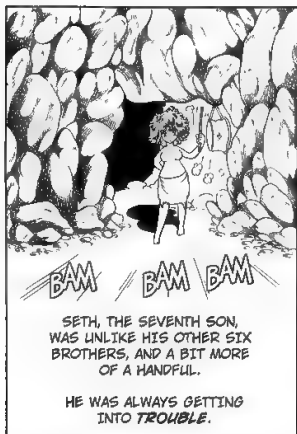


HE TRAVELED  
FROM ONE END  
OF THE PLANET  
TO THE  
OTHER,  
DISCOVERING  
ALL THE  
ORES AND  
MINERALS  
HIDDEN IN ITS  
PEAKS AND  
VALLEYS.

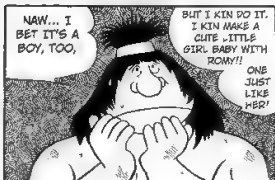




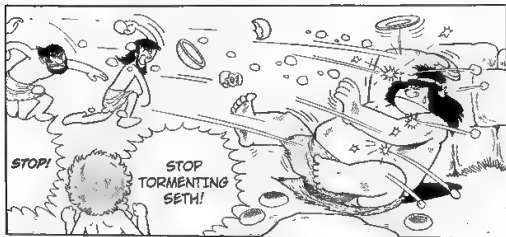
ONE DAY, HARAN  
ACCIDENTALLY CAME  
UPON AN OIL-LIKE  
SUBSTANCE, GETTING  
FROM BETWEEN  
SOME ROCKS,  
EVIDENCE THAT  
ANIMALS HAD  
ONCE FLOURISHED  
IN THE PLANET'S  
DISTANT PAST...





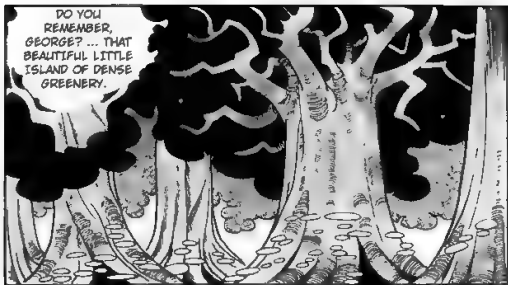


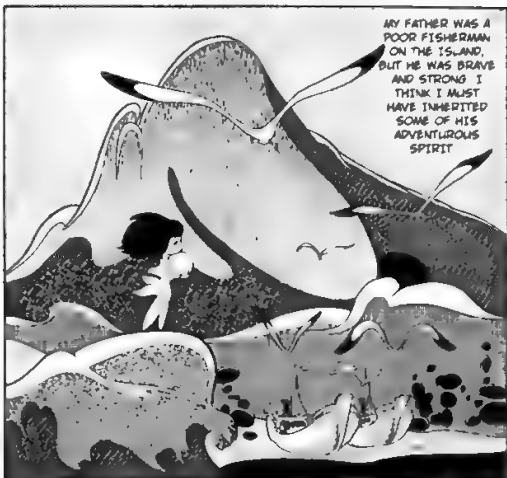




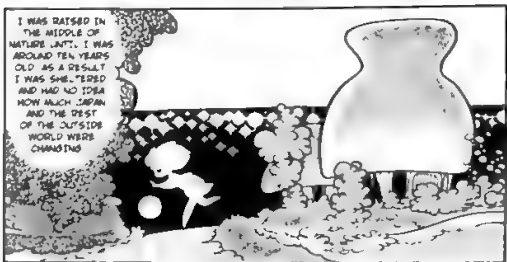




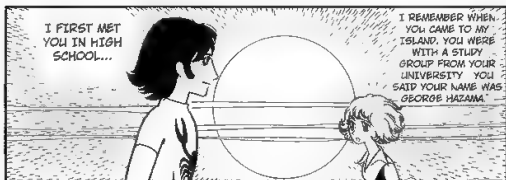




MY FATHER WAS A  
POOR FISHERMAN  
ON THE ISLAND,  
BUT HE WAS BRAVE  
AND STRONG. I  
THINK I MUST  
HAVE INHERITED  
SOME OF HIS  
ADVENTUROUS  
SPIRIT.

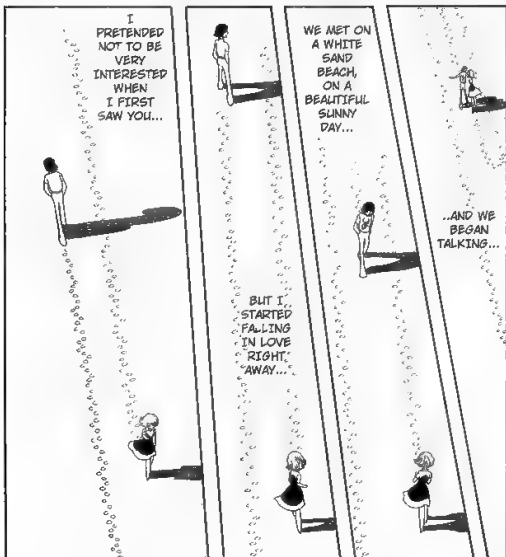


I WAS RAISED IN  
THE MIDDLE OF  
NATURE UNTIL I WAS  
AROUND TEN YEARS  
OLD. AS A RESULT  
I WAS SHELTERED  
AND HAD NO IDEA  
HOW MUCH JAPAN  
AND THE REST  
OF THE OUTSIDE  
WORLD WERE  
CHANGING.



I FIRST MET  
YOU IN HIGH  
SCHOOL...

I REMEMBER WHEN  
YOU CAME TO MY  
ISLAND. YOU WERE  
WITH A STUDY  
GROUP FROM YOUR  
UNIVERSITY. YOU  
SAID YOUR NAME WAS  
GEORGE HAZAMA.



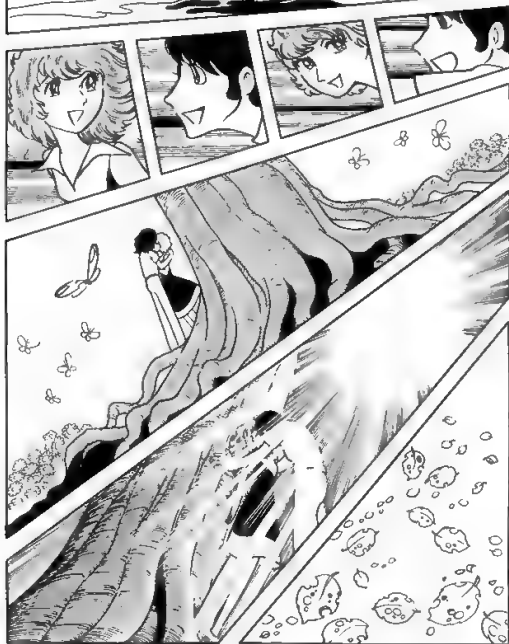
I  
PRETENDED  
NOT TO BE  
VERY  
INTERESTED  
WHEN  
I FIRST  
SAW YOU...

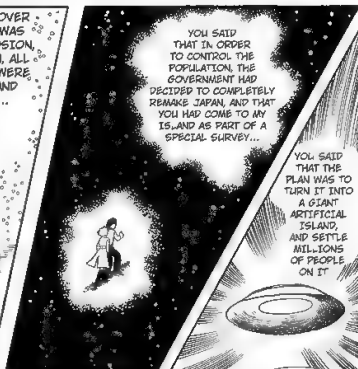
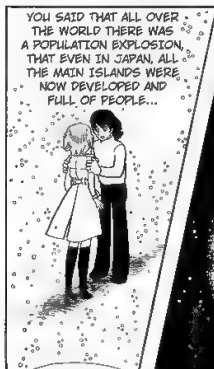
WE MET ON  
A WHITE  
SAND  
BEACH,  
ON A  
BEAUTIFUL  
SUNNY  
DAY...

BUT I  
STARTED  
FALLING  
IN LOVE  
RIGHT  
AWAY...

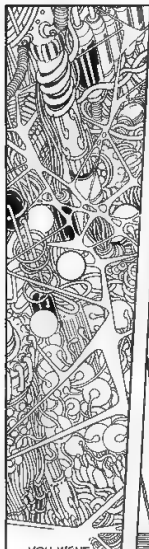
...AND WE  
BEGAN  
TALKING...

WE RAN  
ABOUT, AND  
HAD A GREAT  
TIME THAT  
SUMMER...









YOU WENT  
BACK TO  
TOKYO, STOLE  
A BILLION  
YEN IN  
CONSTRUCTION  
FEES FROM  
YOUR  
UNIVERSITY,  
AND THEN FLED  
WITH ME... WE  
CREATED QUITE  
A SCENE,  
DIDN'T WE?

THE MASS  
MEDIA STARTED  
SENSATIONALIZING  
THINGS AND A  
WARRANT WAS  
ISSUED FOR  
YOUR ARREST,  
BUT YOU TOOK  
ME AND  
FLED TO  
HONG KONG...



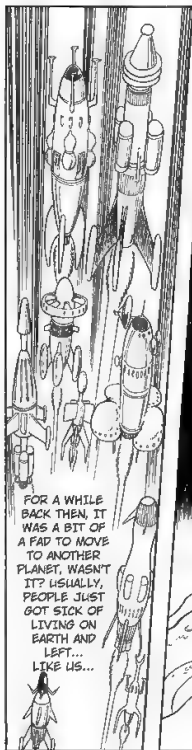
THERE, WE  
VISITED A BARGAIN  
BASEMENT SPACE  
REAL ESTATE AGENT,  
BOUGHT A PLANET  
SEVERAL LIGHT  
YEARS FROM EARTH,  
AND IMMEDIATELY  
TOOK OFF...

WE HEARD  
THE NEWS  
ON THE  
RADIO  
WHILE IN  
THE SPACE  
SHIP--"TWO  
STUDENTS  
PULL OFF A  
HUGE HEIST  
AND FLEE TO  
DISTANT  
PLANET!  
A BRAZEN  
ACT OF  
RECKLESS  
YOUTH!" WE  
COULDN'T  
STOP  
LAUGHING...



1	0.15
6	22429
11	5236983
17	49387
	16602





FOR A WHILE  
BACK THEN, IT  
WAS A BIT OF  
A FAD TO MOVE  
TO ANOTHER  
PLANET, WASN'T  
IT? USUALLY,  
PEOPLE JUST  
GOT SICK OF  
LIVING ON  
EARTH AND  
LEFT...  
LIKE US...

BUT I  
THINK MOST  
PEOPLE REGRETTED  
IT LATER. MOST  
PEOPLE GET  
HOMESICK FOR  
EARTH. IT'S NOT  
EASY LIVING HERE  
IN OUTER SPACE...



KNOW WHAT,  
GEORGE? IF I  
THOUGHT I COULD  
NEVER GO BACK TO  
EARTH, I'D RATHER  
DIE RIGHT NOW...



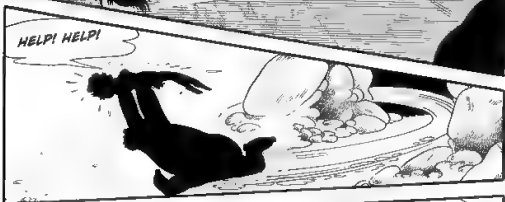
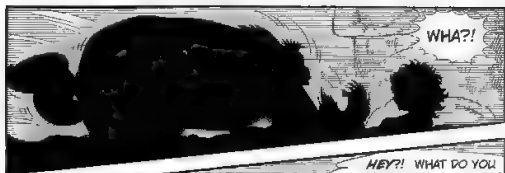
YOU'VE GOT  
TO HELP ME,  
GEORGE...

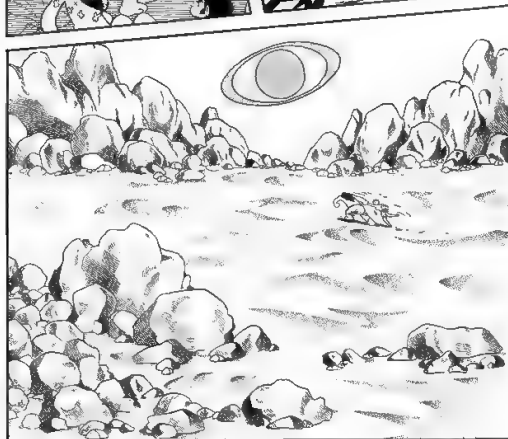


PLEASE,  
GEORGE.

PLEASE...  
I CAN'T  
GO ON...









BUT IT'S  
WRONG  
SETH  
IT'S  
WRONG

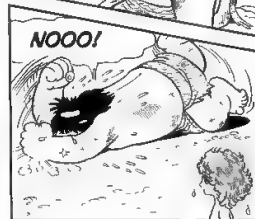
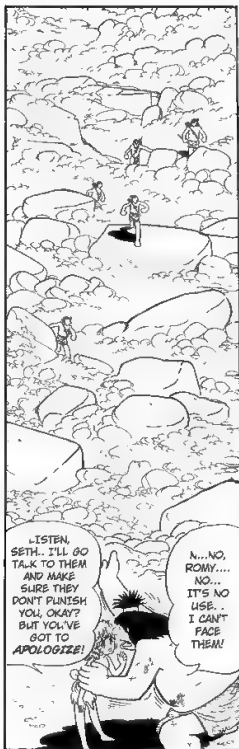


LOT CAN'T  
MAKE  
GIRL  
BABIES!

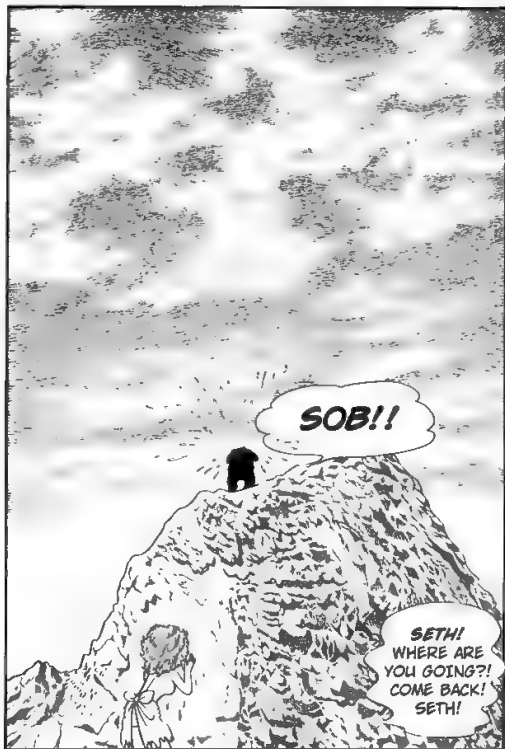


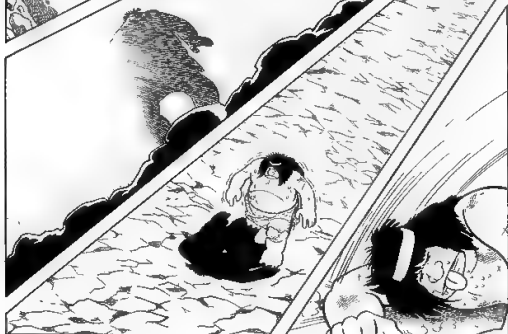
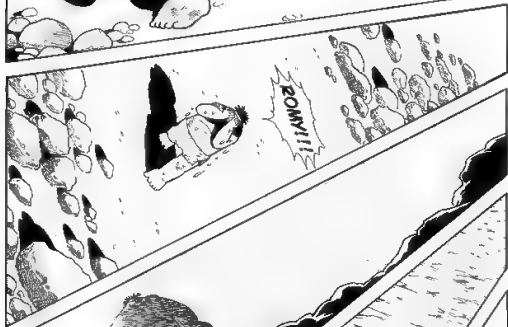
DON'T  
BE  
SILLY  
SETH!  
WE'LL  
STARVE  
TO  
DEATH  
HERE!

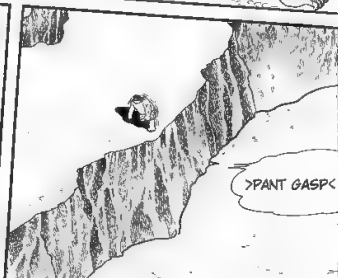
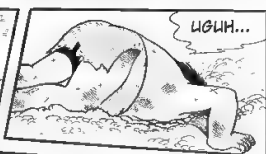
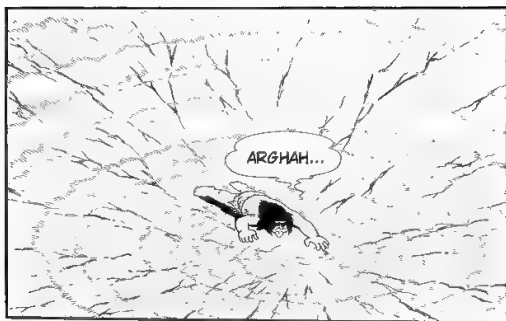




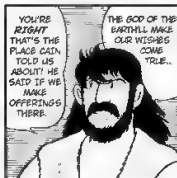
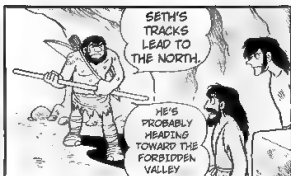




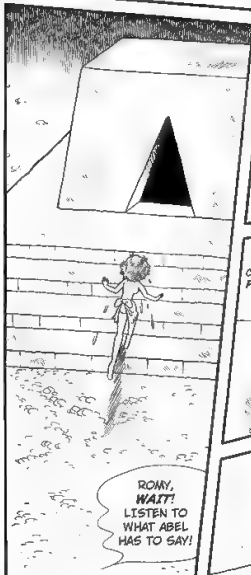
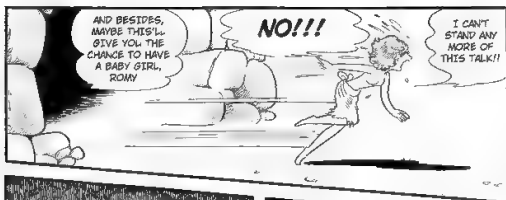






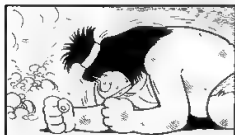










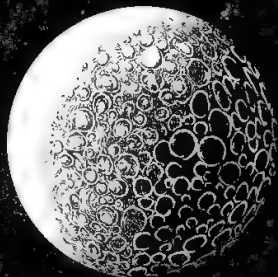


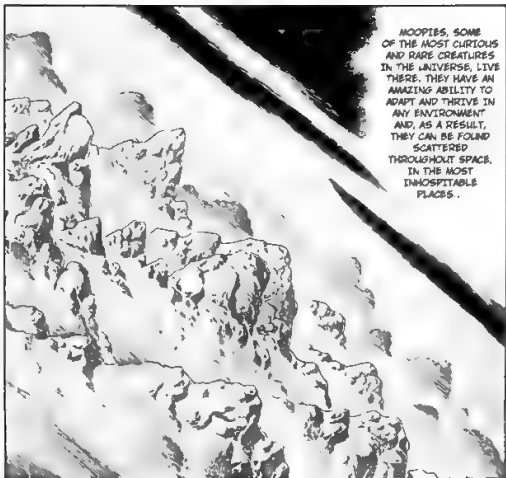


AS IT HAPPENED, I WAS  
RESTING MY WINGS IN  
THE MOUNTAIN OF FIRE,  
AND I HEARD SETH'S WISH.  
I FELT I HAD TO DO SOMETHING  
TO HELP HIM... AND HELP  
THE POOR, MISERABLE  
PEOPLE ON HIS PLANET.

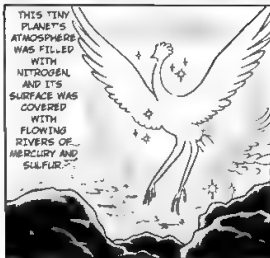


I FLEW FROM EDEN 17  
TO A TINY SCRAP OF A  
PLANET FAR, FAR AWAY--  
NEARLY 6000 LIGHT  
YEARS IN HUMAN TERMS.





MOOPIES, SOME OF THE MOST CURIOUS AND RARE CREATURES IN THE UNIVERSE, LIVE THERE. THEY HAVE AN AMAZING ABILITY TO ADAPT AND THRIVE IN ANY ENVIRONMENT AND, AS A RESULT, THEY CAN BE FOUND SCATTERED THROUGHOUT SPACE, IN THE MOST INHOSPITABLE PLACES.

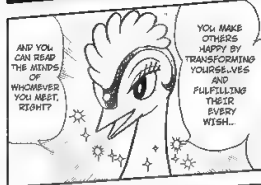
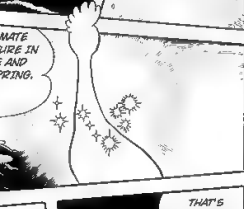


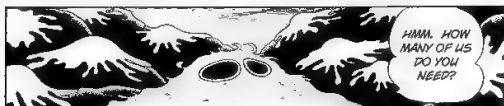
THIS TINY PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE WAS FILLED WITH NITROGEN, AND ITS SURFACE WAS COVERED WITH FLOWING RIVERS OF MERCURY AND SULFUR.



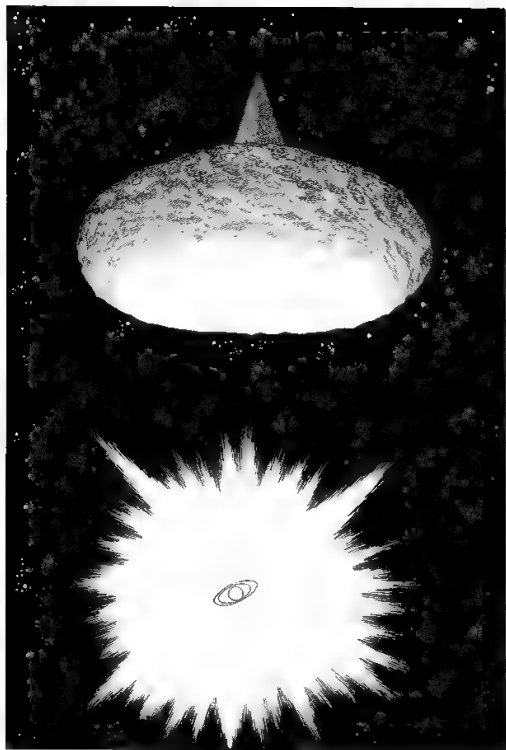
WHERE IS YOUR LEADER?



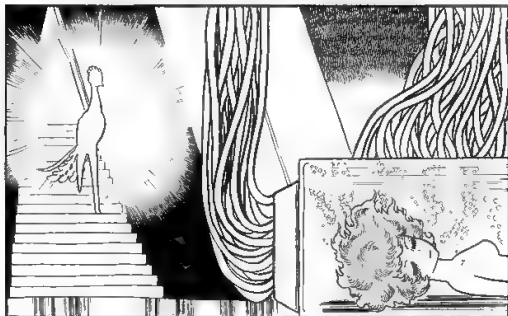
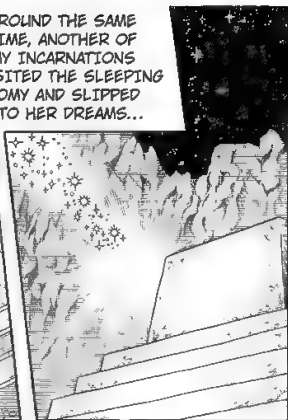
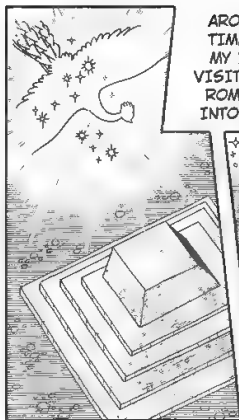


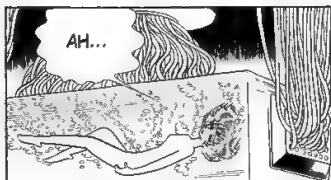
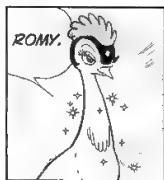


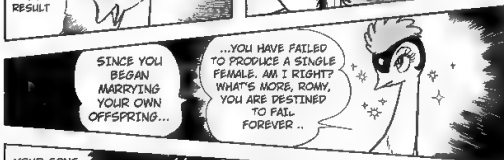


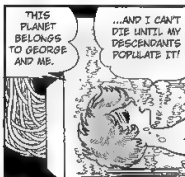
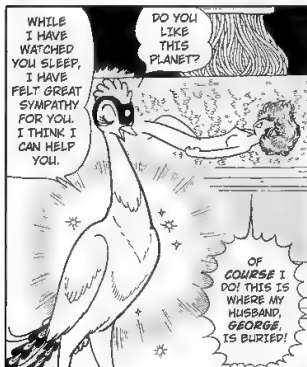
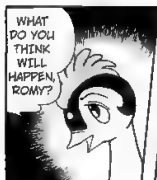


AROUND THE SAME  
TIME, ANOTHER OF  
MY INCARNATIONS  
VISITED THE SLEEPING  
ROMY AND SLIPPED  
INTO HER DREAMS...











YOU WILL  
CREATE A NEW  
RACE OF  
PEOPLE,  
RIGHT HERE  
ON EDEN 17

WHAT  
?!

THIS HAS  
BEEN DONE  
MANY TIMES  
BEFORE,  
ON OTHER  
PLANETS...

YOU MEAN THAT MY  
CHILDREN SHOULD  
MATE WITH ALIENS?!  
B. BUT THAT'S NOT  
POSSIBLE!

HOW  
CAN  
THEY?!

THERE ARE  
COUNTLESS MILLIONS  
OF PLANETS  
IN THE UNIVERSE  
POPULATED BY  
INTELLIGENT LIFE  
FORMS...

SOME OF THESE  
MYSTERIOUS  
BEINGS FRANKLY  
DEFY HUMAN  
IMAGINATION...

AND THERE IS ONE  
RACE OF BEINGS THAT  
CAN MATE WITH ANY  
OTHER CREATURE IN  
THE UNIVERSE AND  
PRODUCE  
OFFSPRING....

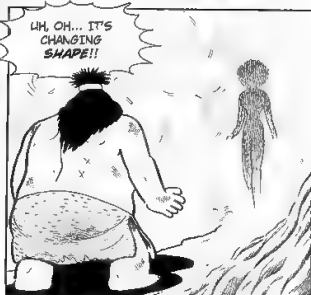
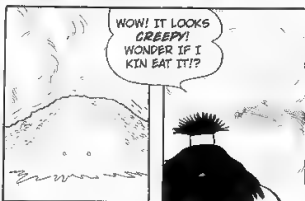
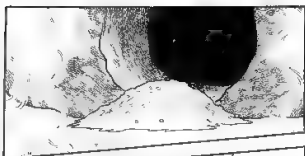
OF COURSE,  
ONCE AN  
EARTHLING  
MATES WITH  
AN ALIEN BEING  
IT'S OFFSPRING  
WILL NO LONGER  
BE OF EARTH.

... BUT THE  
NEW  
PROGENY  
WILL BE  
ABLE TO  
SURVIVE ON  
EDEN 17, AND  
THRIVE AS  
HUMANS

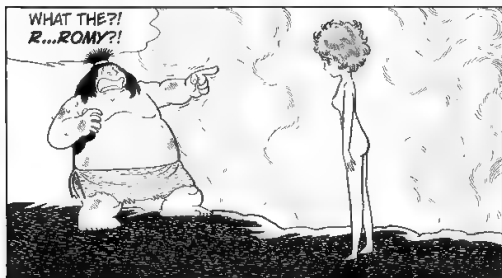
BUT  
WILL  
FEMALES  
BE  
BORN,  
TOO?

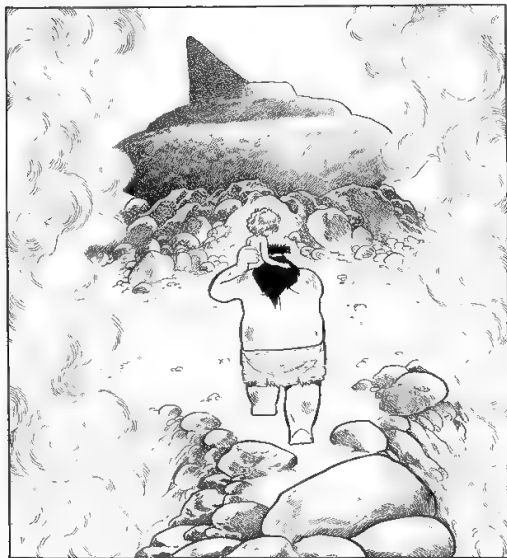
OF COURSE. IF  
YOU SO DESIRE,  
TODAY CAN BE  
THE START OF  
A NEW RACE  
OF PEOPLE.

G...GOSH...  
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS  
THAT THING? I GO TO  
SLEEP, AN' WHEN I WAKE  
UP THERE'S A GIANT  
BOULDER ON TOP  
OF THOSE ROCKS  
OVER THERE!





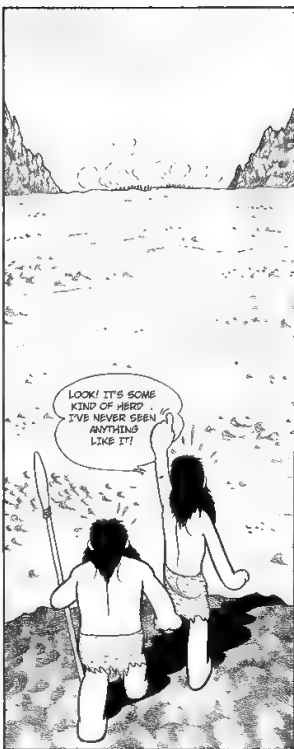




AND SO BOTH  
TOOK THE MOOSE  
WOMAN DEEP INTO  
THE FIRE MOUNTAIN  
WHERE THEY WOULD  
LIVE TOGETHER FOR  
MANY MANY YEARS  
BUT BEFORE LONG  
THEY ALSO GAVE  
BIRTH TO A LITTLE  
BABY GIRL.

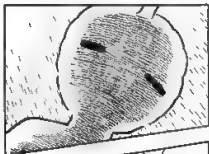
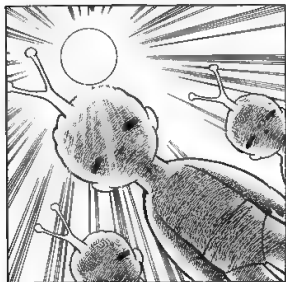


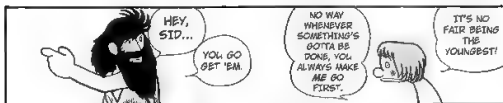






THEY'RE NOT FROM AROUND HERE..



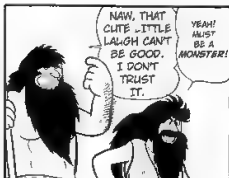




HURRY UP  
AND KILL  
IT, SID!



KILL IT? BUT  
SHOULDN'T WE  
INVESTIGATE  
MORE FIRST?



NAW, THAT  
CUTE LITTLE  
LAUGH CAN'T  
BE GOOD.  
I DON'T TRUST  
IT.

YEAH!  
MUST BE A  
MONSTER!



SNIFF  
SNIFF

NOPS... IT  
SMELLS  
REALLY NICE.  
SOMETHING  
KIND OF  
SWEET, LIKE  
I'VE NEVER  
SMELLED  
BEFORE!



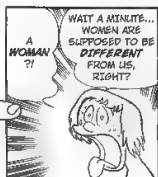
SMACK!



HEE HEE...



I KNOW! IT'S THAT ANIMAL  
THAT FATHER TOLD US  
ABOUT IT'S... IT'S A  
WOMAN! I CAN TELL BY  
WHAT SHE JUST DID!



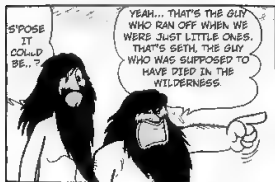
A  
WOMAN  
?!

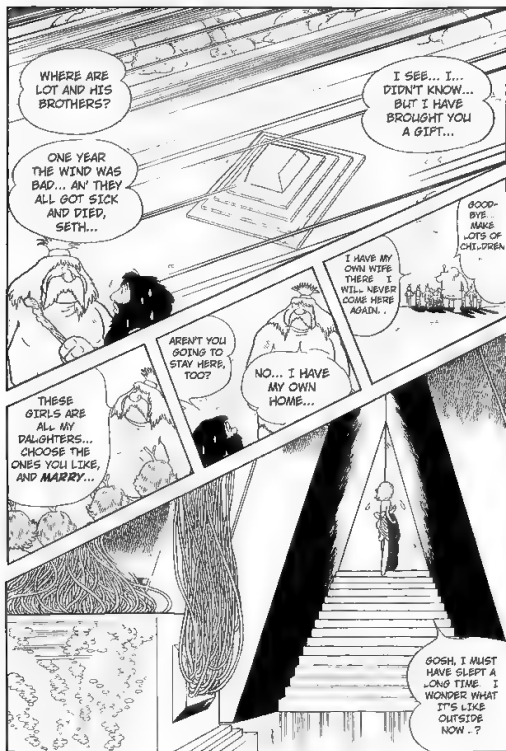
WAIT A MINUTE...  
WOMEN ARE  
SUPPOSED TO BE  
DIFFERENT  
FROM US,  
RIGHT?

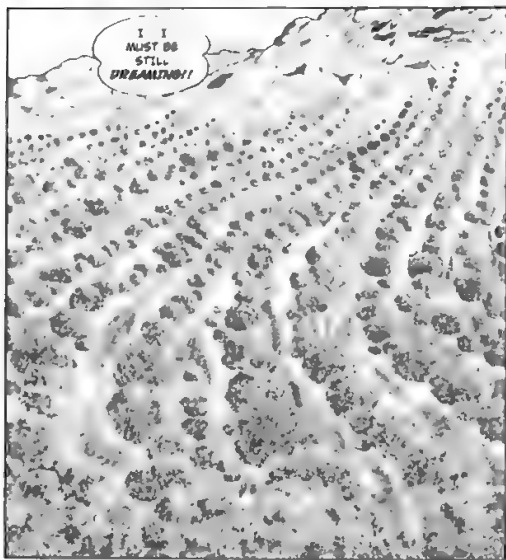


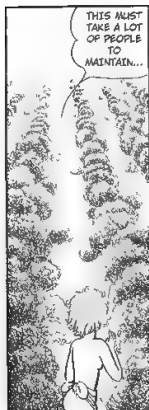
UH, OH! THERE'S  
A WHOLE BUNCH  
OF 'EM HEADING  
RIGHT FOR ME!!

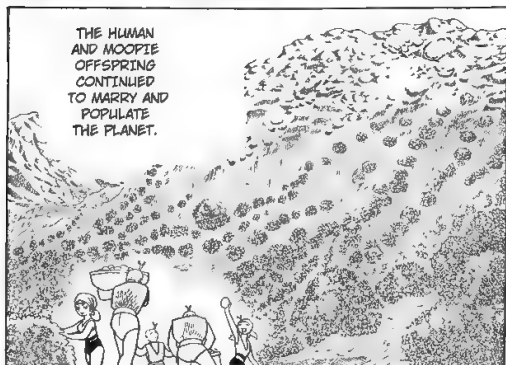
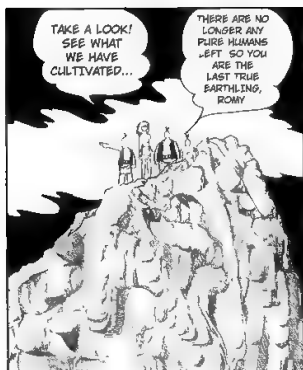




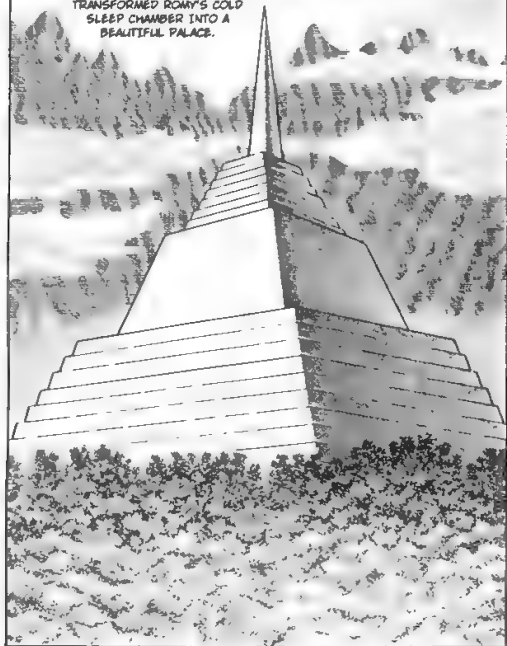




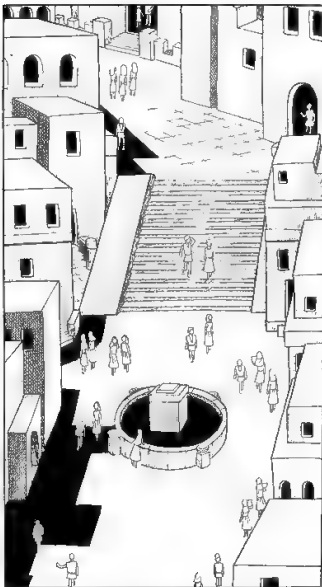




WITH THEIR SUPERIOR MOOPIE BLOODLINE,  
THE NEW MEN AND WOMEN OF EDEN 17 WERE  
ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH UNDER THE  
WORST POSSIBLE CONDITIONS.  
THEY SUCCEEDED IN BUILDING A GREAT  
CITY THAT THEY NAMED EDNA. THEY THEN  
TRANSFORMED ROMY'S COLD  
SLEEP CHAMBER INTO A  
BEAUTIFUL PALACE.

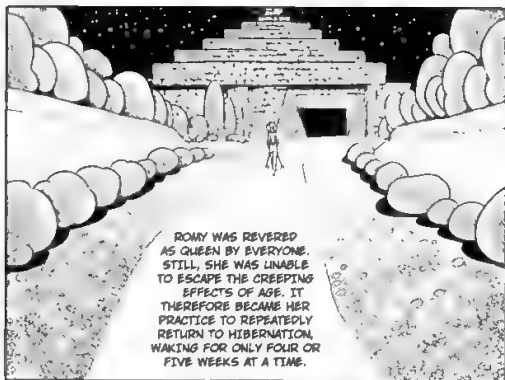


DECADES  
PASSED AND  
EDNA'S  
POPULATION  
NEARED TEN  
THOUSAND.



THE HUMAN-MOOPIE WOMEN WERE VERY FERTILE.  
AND BY THE TIME THEIR CHILDREN WERE FOUR  
OR FIVE YEARS OLD, THEY WERE CAPABLE  
OF DOING ALMOST ANY WORK.

EDNA WAS A QUIET CITY, SIMPLE AND  
PRIMITIVE, BUT ITS CITIZENS ALL WORKED  
HARD AND GOT ALONG WELL WITH EACH OTHER.

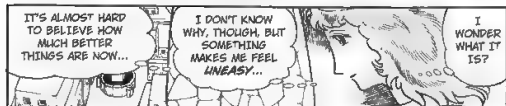


ROMY WAS REVERED AS QUEEN BY EVERYONE. STILL, SHE WAS UNABLE TO ESCAPE THE CREEPING EFFECTS OF AGE. IT THEREFORE BECAME HER PRACTICE TO REPEATEDLY RETURN TO HIBERNATION, WAKING FOR ONLY FOUR OR FIVE WEEKS AT A TIME.



THE PEOPLE OF EDNA EVENTUALLY LEARNED HOW TO CREATE EXPLOSIVES. THEN, BY COMBINING DIFFERENT ORES FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF EDEN II, THEY MADE THE EXPLOSIVES EVER MORE POWERFUL, AND USED THEIR NEW TECHNOLOGY TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE PLANET.







MAJESTY..  
ARE YOU  
GOING INTO  
THE TREASURE  
HALL AGAIN?

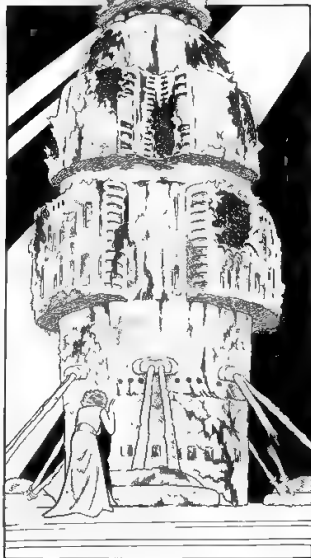
YOU SPEND  
NEARLY ALL  
YOUR DAYS  
THERE  
NOW

I KNOW .  
BUT  
SOMETHING  
MAKES ME  
FEEL  
PEACEFUL  
IN THERE...



I  
KNOW  
WHAT  
IT IS...

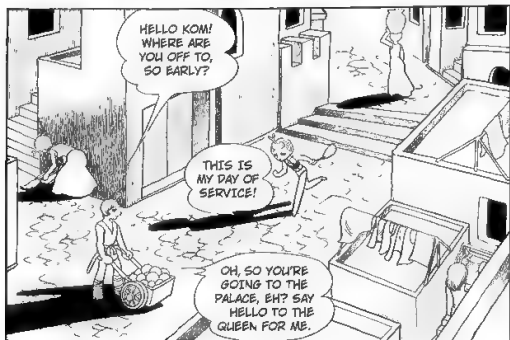
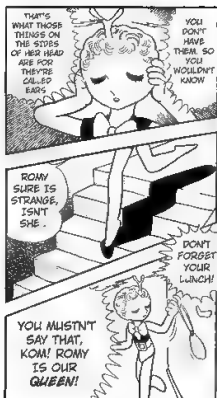
IT'S THE  
MEMORY  
OF  
GEORGE.

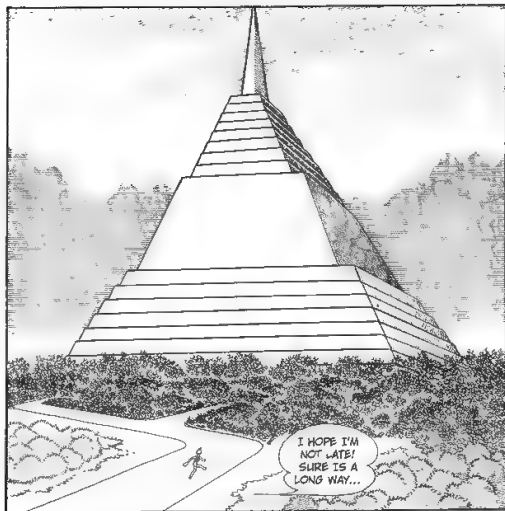


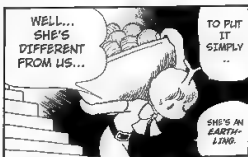
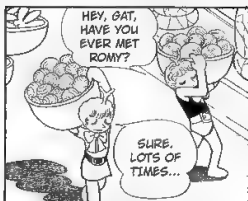
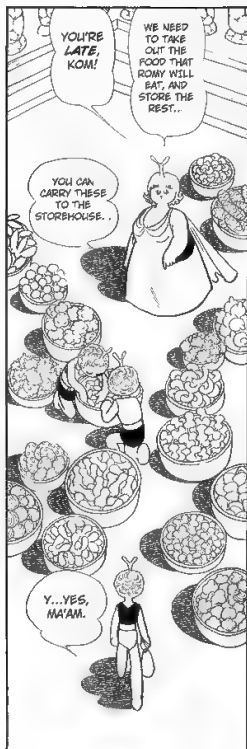




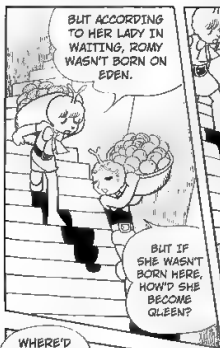
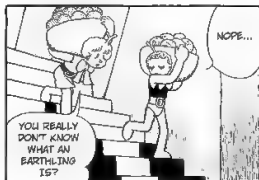


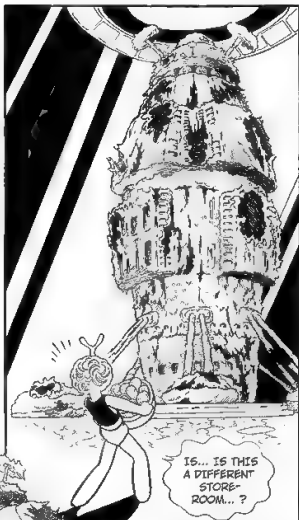


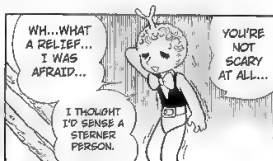
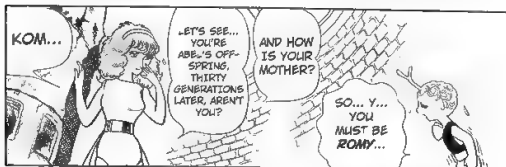
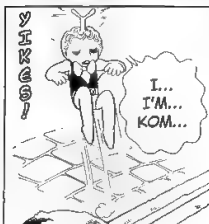
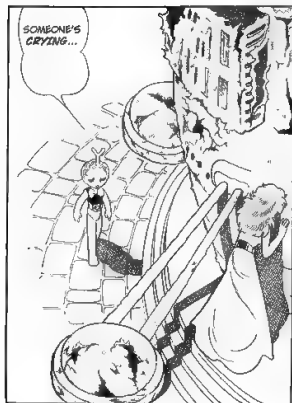




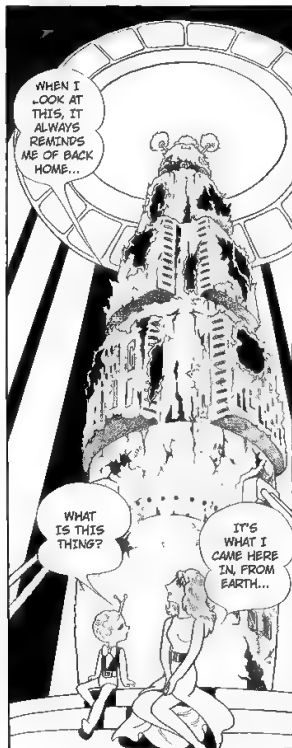














WE LEFT  
EARTH  
WITHOUT  
GIVING  
IT MUCH  
THOUGHT...

I KNOW  
IT'S HARD TO  
BELIEVE NOW,  
BUT WHEN WE  
ARRIVED HERE,  
IT WAS A BLEAK,  
FORBIDDING  
PLACE...



REALLY?



YES... IT  
SEEMS  
LIKE ONLY  
YESTERDAY...

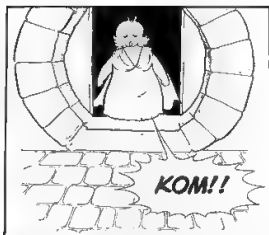


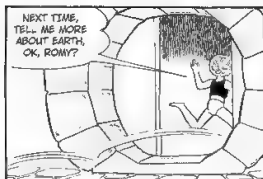
I KNOW THAT  
HUNDREDS OF  
YEARS HAVE GONE  
BY, BUT I'VE ONLY  
BEEN AWAKE HERE  
FOR A TINY  
FRACTION  
OF THAT

SO I  
STILL  
HAVE  
VIVID  
MEMORIES  
OF  
EARTH...

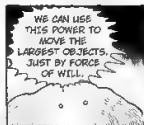
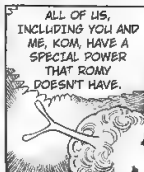
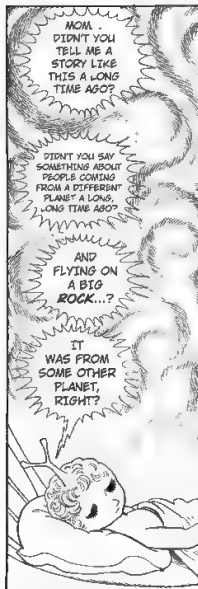


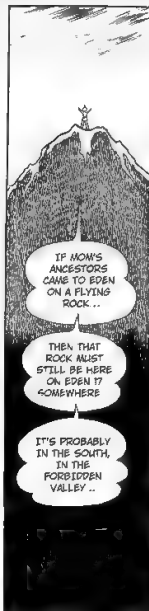
I  
BET  
YOU'D  
LIKE  
TO GO  
BACK  
TO  
EARTH

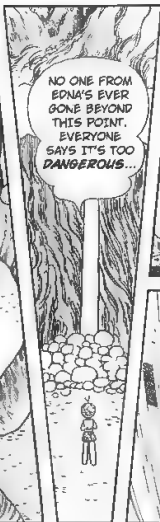
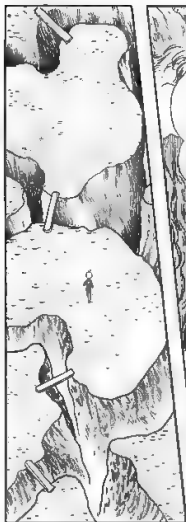


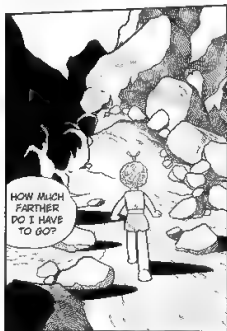
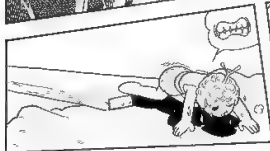


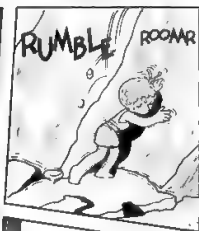
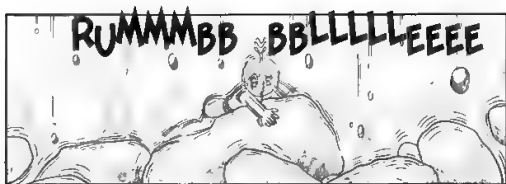


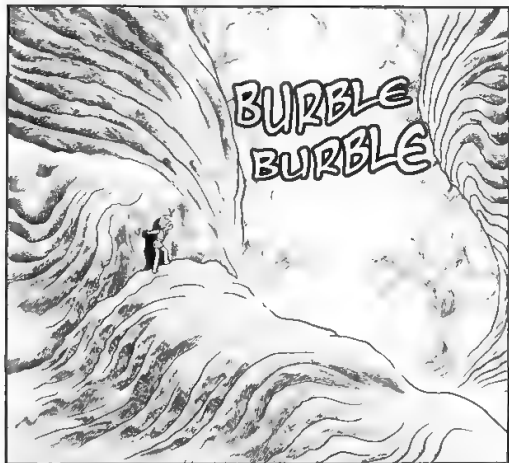


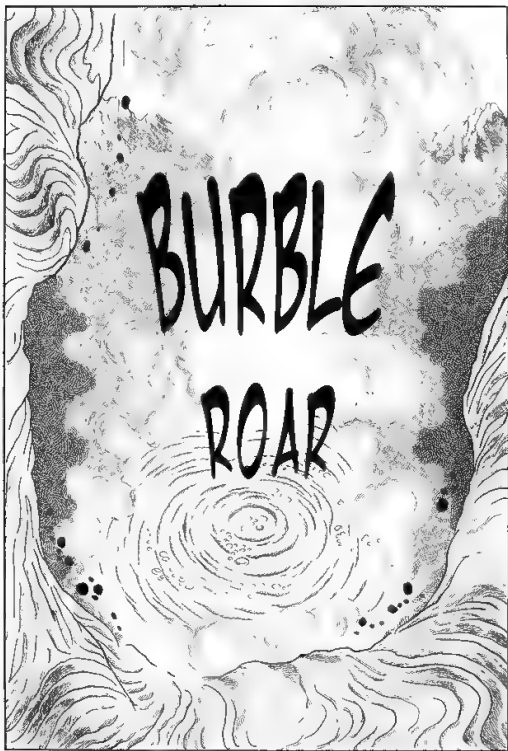


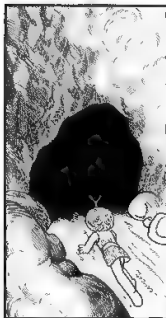
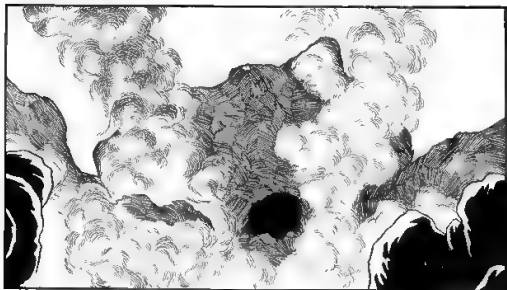




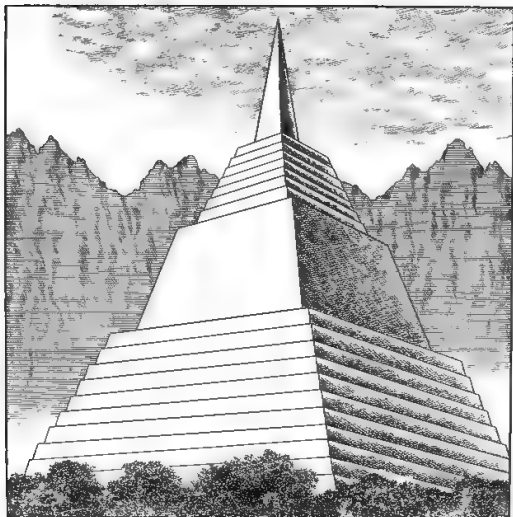


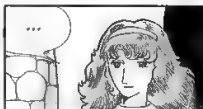




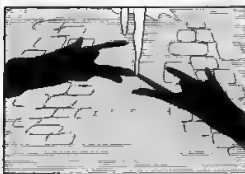
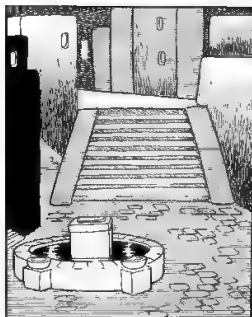
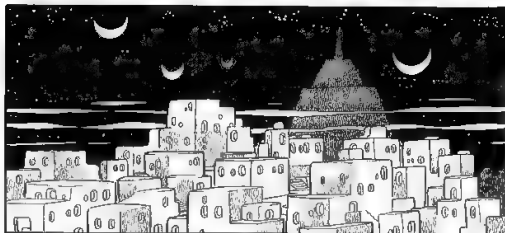


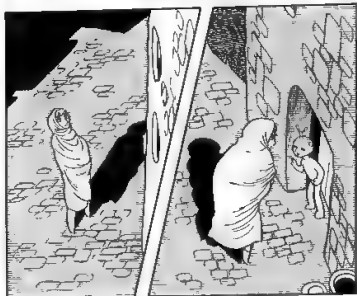
















PLEASE  
STEP  
BACK,  
KOM...



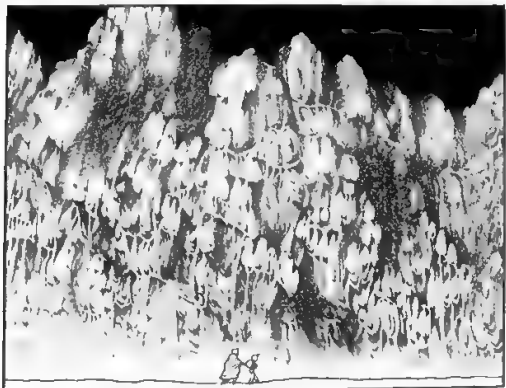
GOSH,  
MOM. YOU  
LOOK JUST  
LIKE  
RONY!



I WON'T SEE THE  
QUEEN OFF, BUT  
PLEASE TELL HER  
THAT SHE HAS  
NOTHING TO  
WORRY ABOUT.

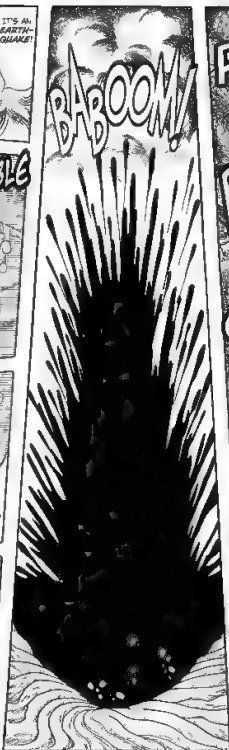


AND  
TAKE  
CARE,  
KOM...

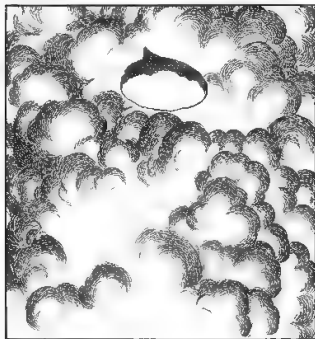


















ROMY..

ROMY, ARE  
YOU OK?



I DON'T  
KNOW...



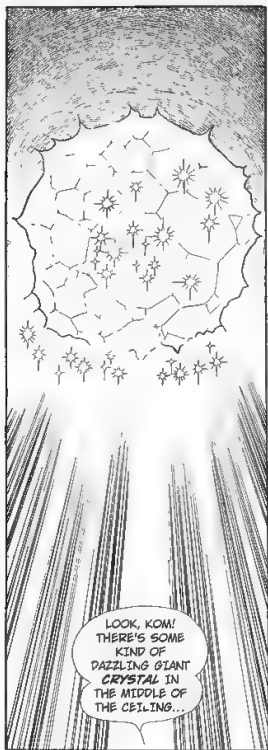
WHAT  
HAPPENED,  
KOM?



I CAN SEE  
YOU AS  
CLEAR AS  
DAY, KOM!

IT'S SO  
BRIGHT  
IN  
HERE!

BRIGHT? OH,  
YES...I CAN  
SENSE IT...

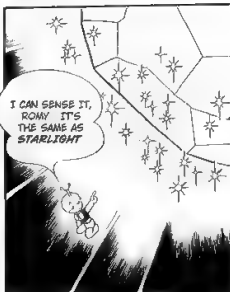


LOOK, KOM!  
THERE'S SOME  
KIND OF  
DAZZLING GIANT  
CRYSTAL IN  
THE MIDDLE OF  
THE CEILING...



IT'S  
GLOWING  
BRIGHTLY

YOU CAN'T  
SEE IT,  
BUT IT'S  
SOME  
SPECIAL  
KIND OF  
LIGHT...



I CAN SENSE IT,  
ROMY IT'S  
THE SAME AS  
STARLIGHT



IT MUST  
BE  
EXPOSED  
TO THE  
OUTSIDE  
...

...MAYBE IT'S  
SOMETHING THAT  
COLLECTS THE LIGHT  
FROM THE STARS,  
AND SHINES IT  
INTO THIS ROOM...



I CAN'T BELIEVE  
STARLIGHT  
ALONE WOULD  
MAKE IT SO  
BRIGHT IN  
HERE, KOM.



NO, IT  
HAS TO  
BE. IT  
IS  
STAR-  
LIGHT'



LOOK,  
ROMY!  
THERE'S A  
HOLE IN  
THE WALL,  
TOO!



BE  
CAREFUL,  
KOM...

THIS  
HOLE  
DOESN'T  
SEEM  
NATURAL  
...



HEY..  
WHAT'S  
THIS?

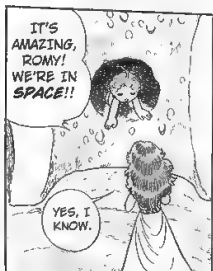
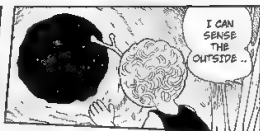
THERE'S  
SOME-  
THING  
HERE  
THAT'S  
SOFT AND  
BOUNCY...

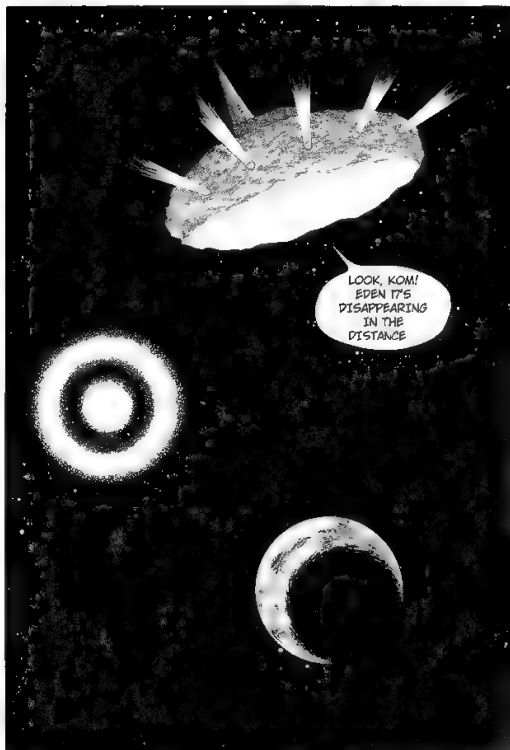


WHAT IS  
IT, KOM?

I'M NOT  
SURE.  
SOME-  
THING'S  
STRANGE









IT'S  
GETTING  
FARTHER  
AND  
FARTHER  
AWAY...

WHEN THE VOLCANO  
ERUPTED, KOM, WE  
MUST HAVE BEEN  
BLOWN INTO THE AIR,  
AND THEN STARTED  
FLYING WITH YOUR  
POWERS.

GOSH,  
MAYBE  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT



IT'S SO  
STRANGE,  
THOUGH. I  
CAN BREATHE  
WITH NO  
PROBLEM,  
AND IT'S AS  
WARM AS  
EVER IN  
HERE

THIS BIG ROCK  
STRUCTURE  
ISN'T NATURAL  
AT ALL  
NOR IS THIS  
WINDOW

IT MUST BE  
DESIGNED  
FOR SPACE  
TRAVEL...



I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT'S HAPPENING,  
BUT I SUDDENLY  
FEEL I'LL MAYBE  
IT'S FROM THE  
CHANGE IN  
GRAVITY

WHY DON'T  
YOU LIE  
DOWN IN THAT  
HAMMOCK-  
LIKE THING  
IN THERE?



I FEEL  
SO  
STRANGE...

JUST REST  
FOR A WHILE,  
ROMY.

I'LL GO SLEEP  
IN THE OTHER  
HOLE.

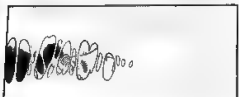
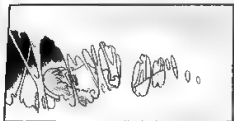
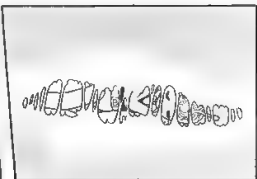
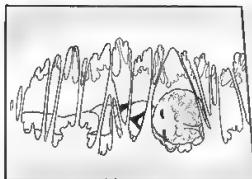
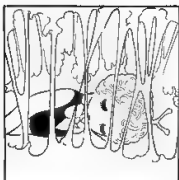


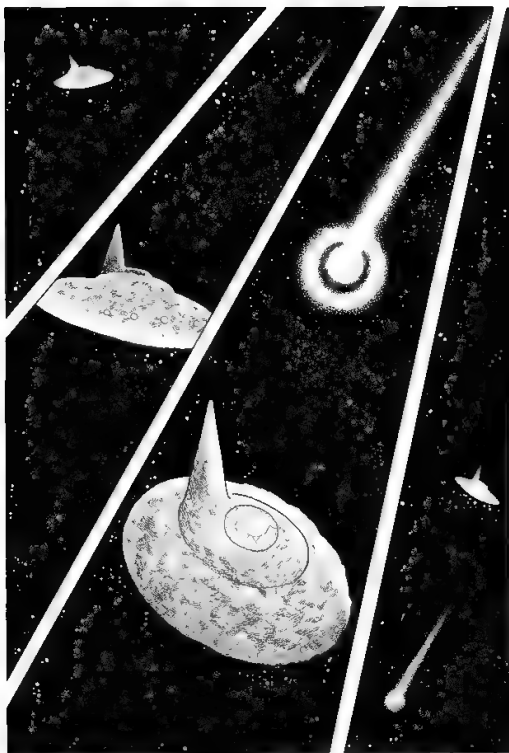
WAIT..  
THERE  
ARE  
FIVE  
HOLES ..

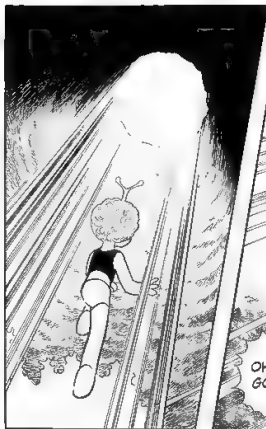
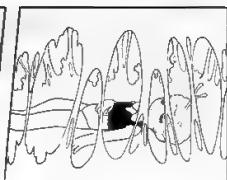
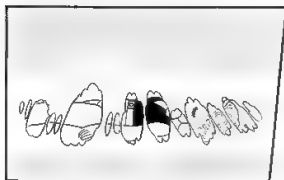


...AND  
THERE ARE  
FIVE SEATS  
AT THE  
TABLE.

THIS SHIP  
IS SET UP  
FOR FIVE  
PEOPLE!



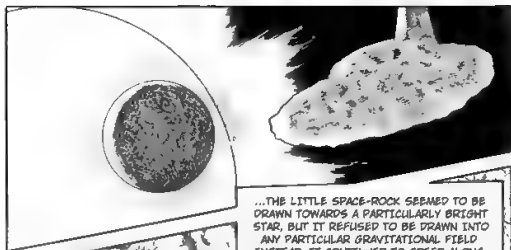




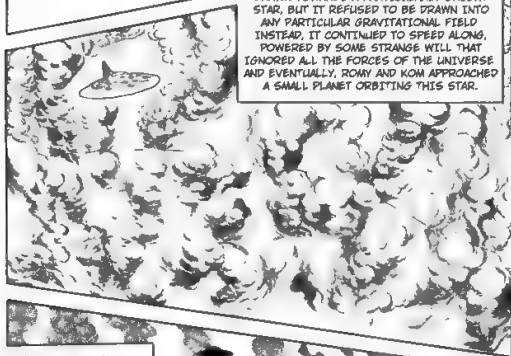


THE LITTLE ROCK QUIETLY MADE ITS WAY ACROSS THE UNIVERSE, ACCELERATING TO A FEARSONE SPEED FROM TIME TO TIME, IT DISAPPEARED INTO BLINDINGLY BRIGHT CLOUDS OF NEBULAR GASES. AT OTHER TIMES, IT FLEW FOR WHAT SEEMED AN ETERNITY THROUGH DARK STELLAR CLOUDS.

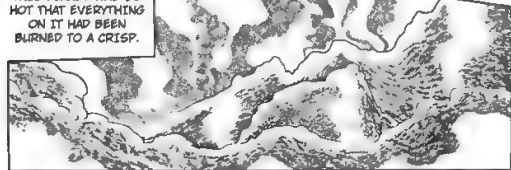
AND THEN, FINALLY...



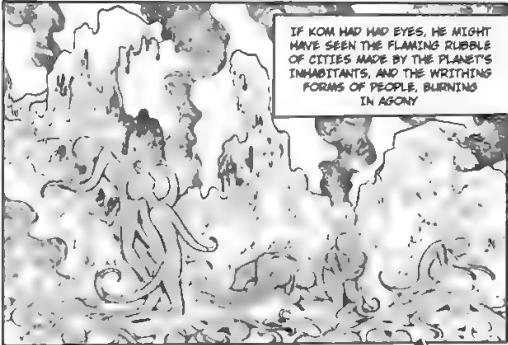
...THE LITTLE SPACE-ROCK SEEMED TO BE DRAWN TOWARDS A PARTICULARLY BRIGHT STAR, BUT IT REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO ANY PARTICULAR GRAVITATIONAL FIELD INSTEAD, IT CONTINUED TO SPEED ALONG, POWERED BY SOME STRANGE WILL THAT IGNORED ALL THE FORCES OF THE UNIVERSE AND EVENTUALLY, ROMY AND KOM APPROACHED A SMALL PLANET ORBITING THIS STAR.




THIS PLANET WAS SO HOT THAT EVERYTHING ON IT HAD BEEN BURNED TO A CRISP.








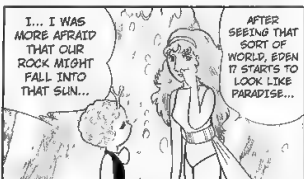
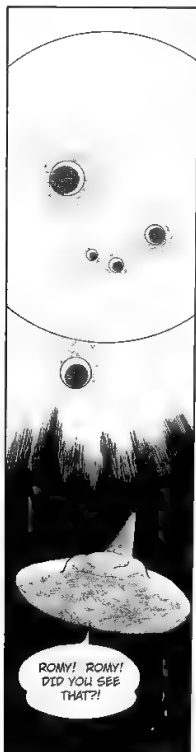
IF KOM HAD HAD EYES, HE MIGHT  
HAVE SEEN THE FLAMING RUBBLE  
OF CITIES MADE BY THE PLANET'S  
INHABITANTS, AND THE WRITHING  
FORMS OF PEOPLE, BURNING  
IN AGONY

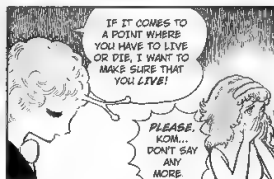
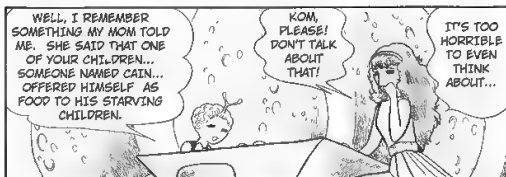
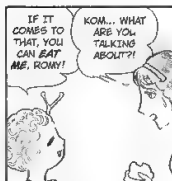


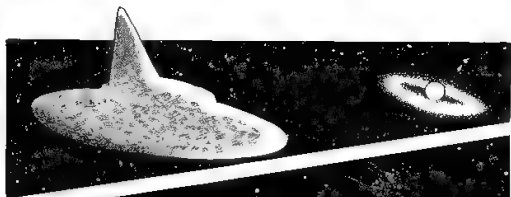
IN ONLY TEN MINUTES, THE  
STAR'S TEMPERATURE HAD  
INCREASED OVER A THOUSAND  
DEGREES. BUT THAT SHORT  
TEN MINUTES WAS MORE THAN  
ENOUGH TO BURN EVERY  
PLANET THAT ROTATED AROUND  
IT INTO OBLIVION.



BY SHEER  
COINCIDENCE, OUR  
SPACE TRAVELERS  
WERE WITNESSES  
TO THE FINAL  
AGONY OF ONE OF  
THESE PLANETS.

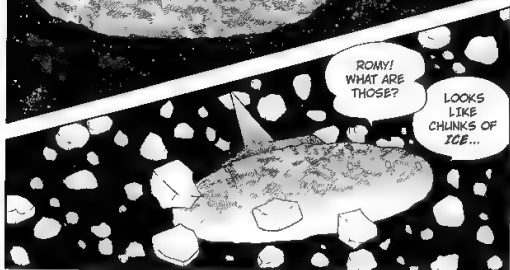






ROMY!  
WHAT ARE  
THOSE?

LOOKS  
LIKE  
CHUNKS OF  
ICE...





LOOK AT THE SURFACE  
OF THAT PLANET,  
KOM... LOOKS LIKE  
IT'S COVERED WITH  
ICICLES'

BUT WHERE  
DID THE ICE  
COME FROM?

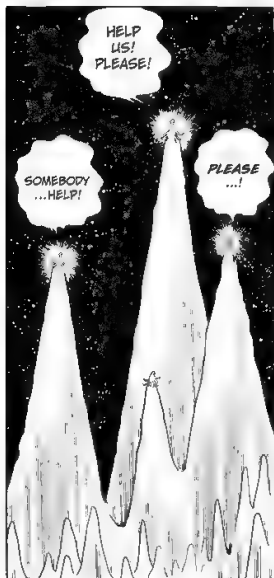


ICE IS  
FORMED  
FROM A  
FROZEN GAS  
OR LIQUID,  
RIGHT?

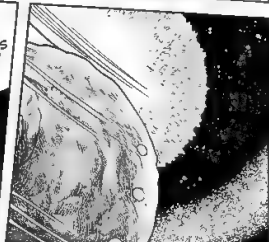
RIGHT...

SO IN ANCIENT  
TIMES, THIS  
PLANET MAY  
HAVE HAD  
WATER AND AN  
ATMOSPHERE...

AND IT MUST  
HAVE HAD A  
SUN, TOO...

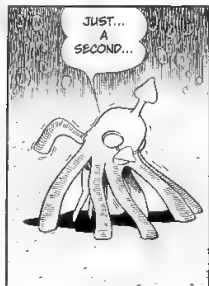
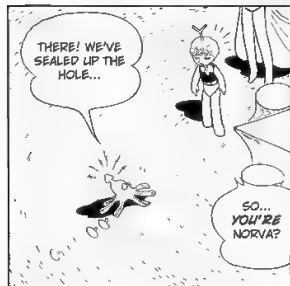
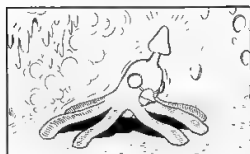
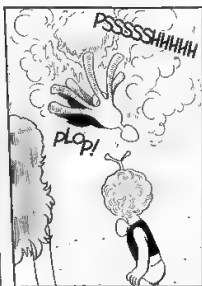


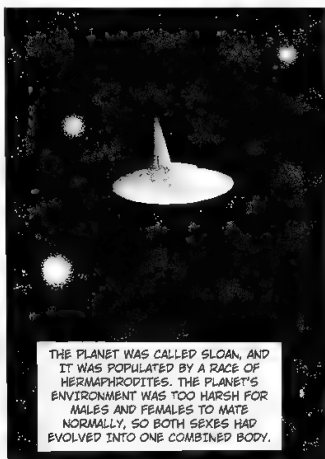


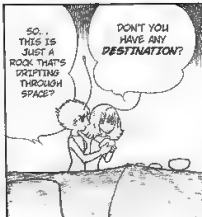
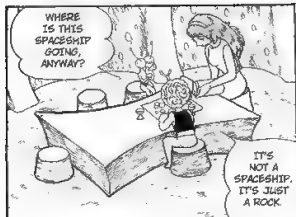
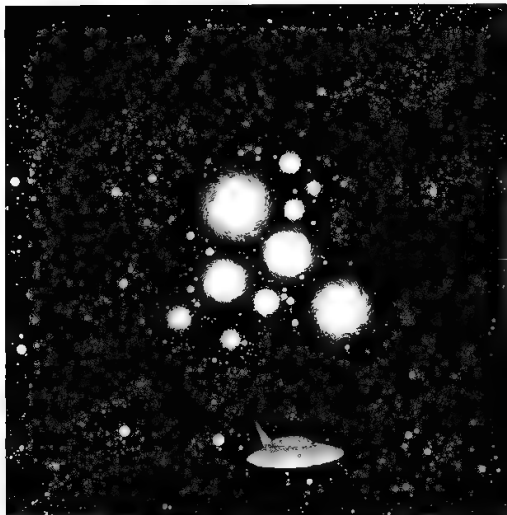






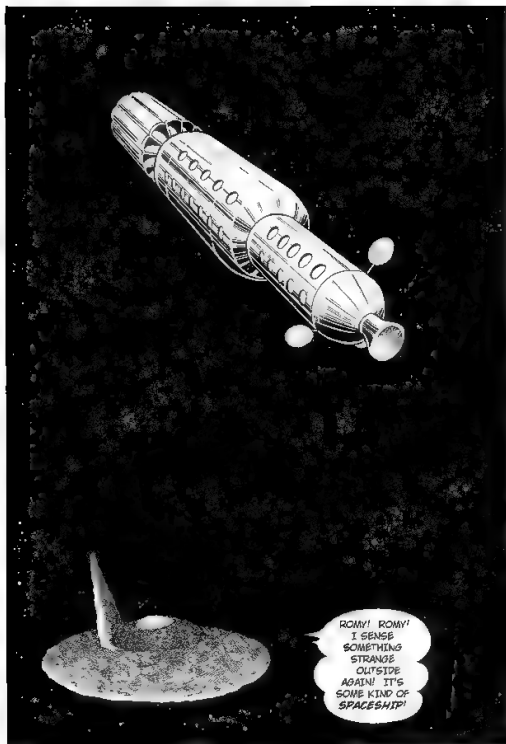




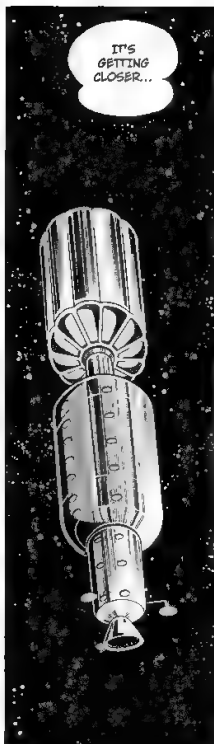




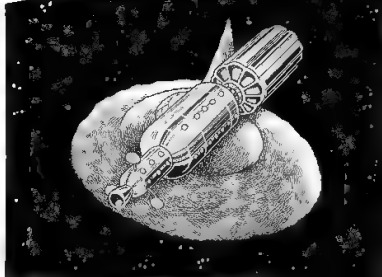
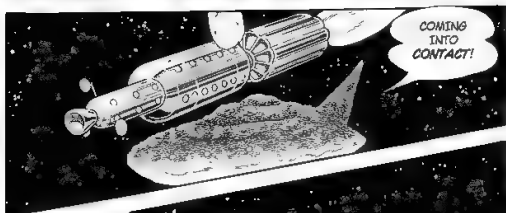


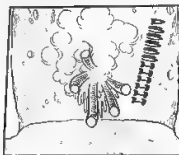
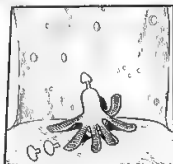


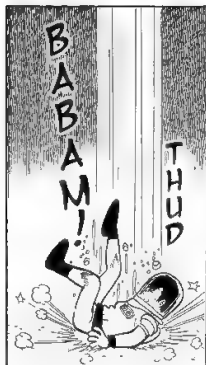
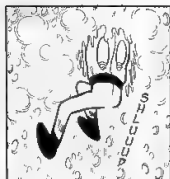
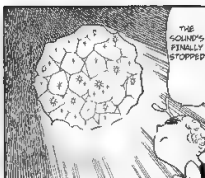
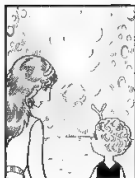
ROMY! ROMY!  
I SENSE  
SOMETHING  
STRANGE  
OUTSIDE  
AGAIN! IT'S  
SOME KIND OF  
SPACESHIP!

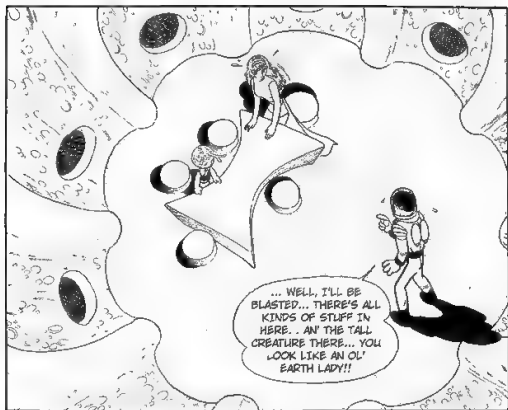




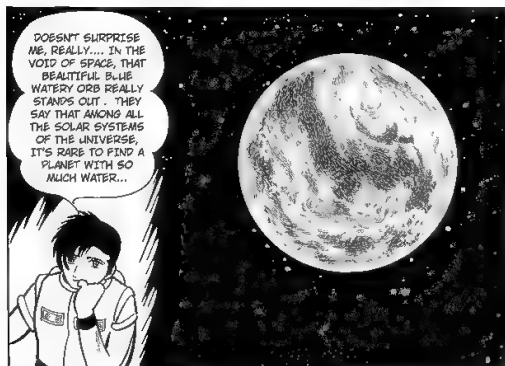














NOTHING'S  
CHANGED MUCH,  
LADY... NOT  
COMPARED TO  
WHEN YOU  
LEFT... ABOUT  
113 YEARS  
AGO, RIGHT?

NATURE WAS  
BEING  
DESTROYED  
FROM  
OVERPOPULATION THEN...

EVERYONE  
WAS  
NOSTALGIC  
FOR A MORE  
PRIMITIVE  
LIFE, AND  
LOTS OF  
PEOPLE  
STARTED  
LEAVING  
FOR OUTER  
SPACE

IT MUST BE  
EVEN WORSE  
NOW ON  
EARTH...

YEP, SAME AS  
EVER! BUT WHO  
WANTS TO TALK  
ABOUT THAT?

AS FOR ME, I  
WANT TO GET  
OUT OF THIS  
ROCK... CAN  
YOU OPEN  
A HOLE FOR  
ME AGAIN?

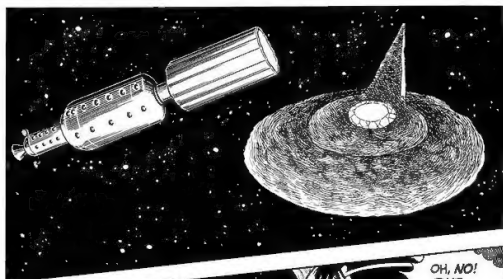
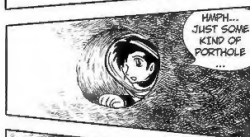
WHY  
ARE  
YOU IN  
SUCH A  
HURRY?

WHY DON'T  
YOU WANT TO  
TALK ABOUT  
EARTH? IS  
SOMETHING  
THE MATTER?

HEY! I'M JUST  
A LOWLY  
FERRY PILOT...  
I'M NO  
EXPERT ON  
EARTH!

YOU'RE  
TRYING TO  
HIDE  
SOMETHING  
FROM ME,  
AREN'T YOU?







I **SECURED**  
MY SHIP TO  
THIS ROCK!  
IT CAN'T  
JUST DRIFT  
OFF LIKE  
THAT!!

BLAST IT!  
WHAT'D  
I DO  
WRONG?!

HEY! WE'VE  
GOTTA STOP  
THAT SHIP!  
YOU'VE GOTTA  
GO AFTER IT!

THIS ROCK FLIES  
ON ITS OWN. WE  
COULDN'T CONTROL  
IT, EVEN IF WE  
WANTED TO.

**WHAT?!**



